

19th-Century Medicinal Choices in Rochester: A Look at Medicine Bottles from the Wentworth Homestead Site at Strafford Square

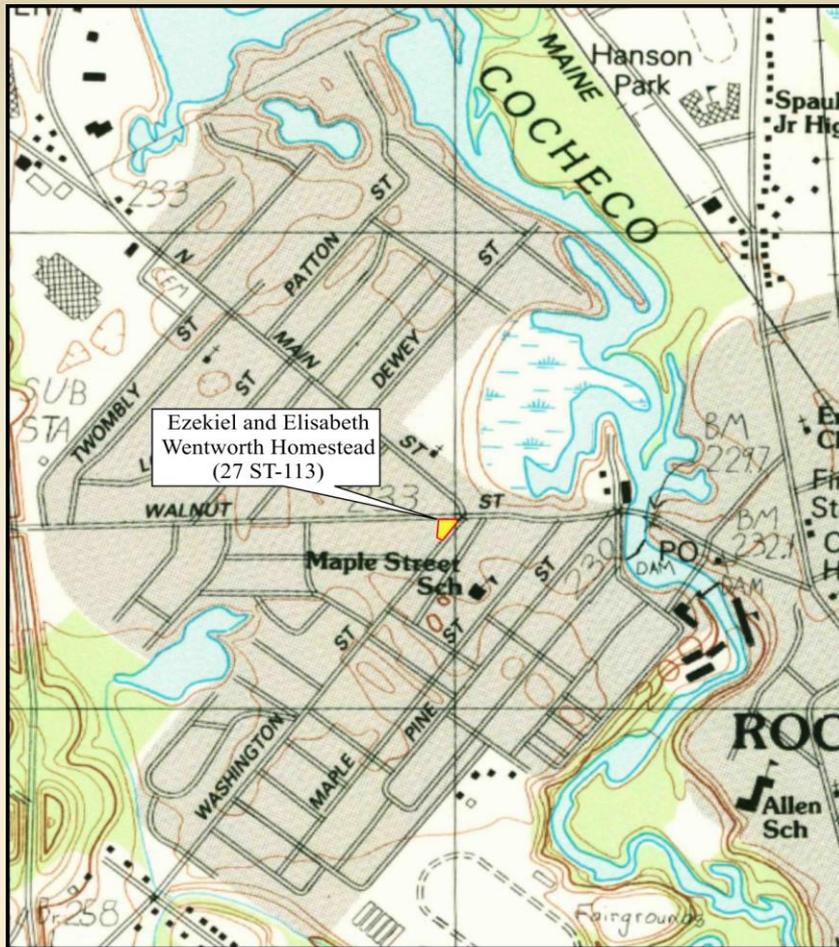


Presented by Ellen Marlatt
Independent Archaeological Consulting, LLC

Rochester Historical Society
58 Hanson Street,
Rochester, NH
March 14, 2019

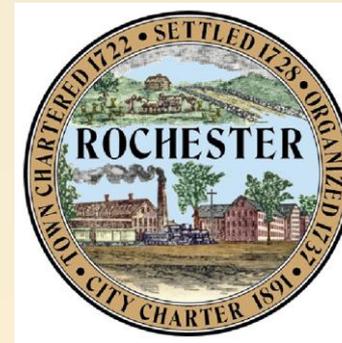


Strafford Square Intersection Improvements



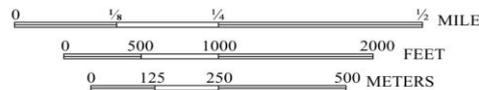
Ezekiel and Elisabeth Wentworth
Homestead (27-ST-113)

ALTERNATIVE MITIGATION 2015

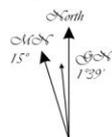


Funding by the City of Rochester and the
FWHA; overseen by NHDOT (14350)

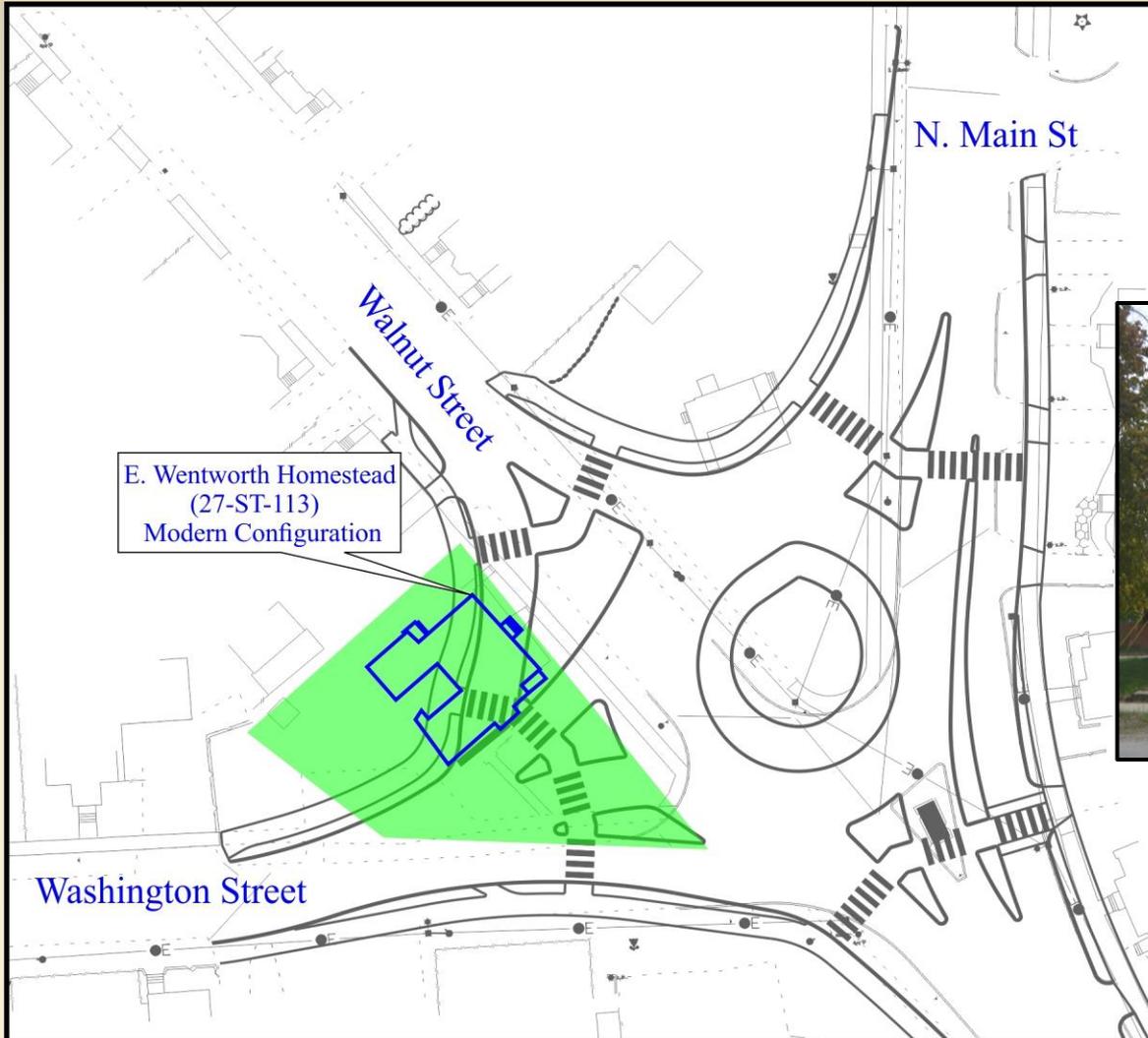
Ezekiel and Elisabeth Wentworth Homestead (27 ST-113) Location
Plotted on Portion of Rochester North, NH 7.5' USGS Quadrangle 1983
INDEPENDENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTING, LLC



Scale 1:24,000 Contour Interval 20 Feet



Strafford Square Intersection Improvements

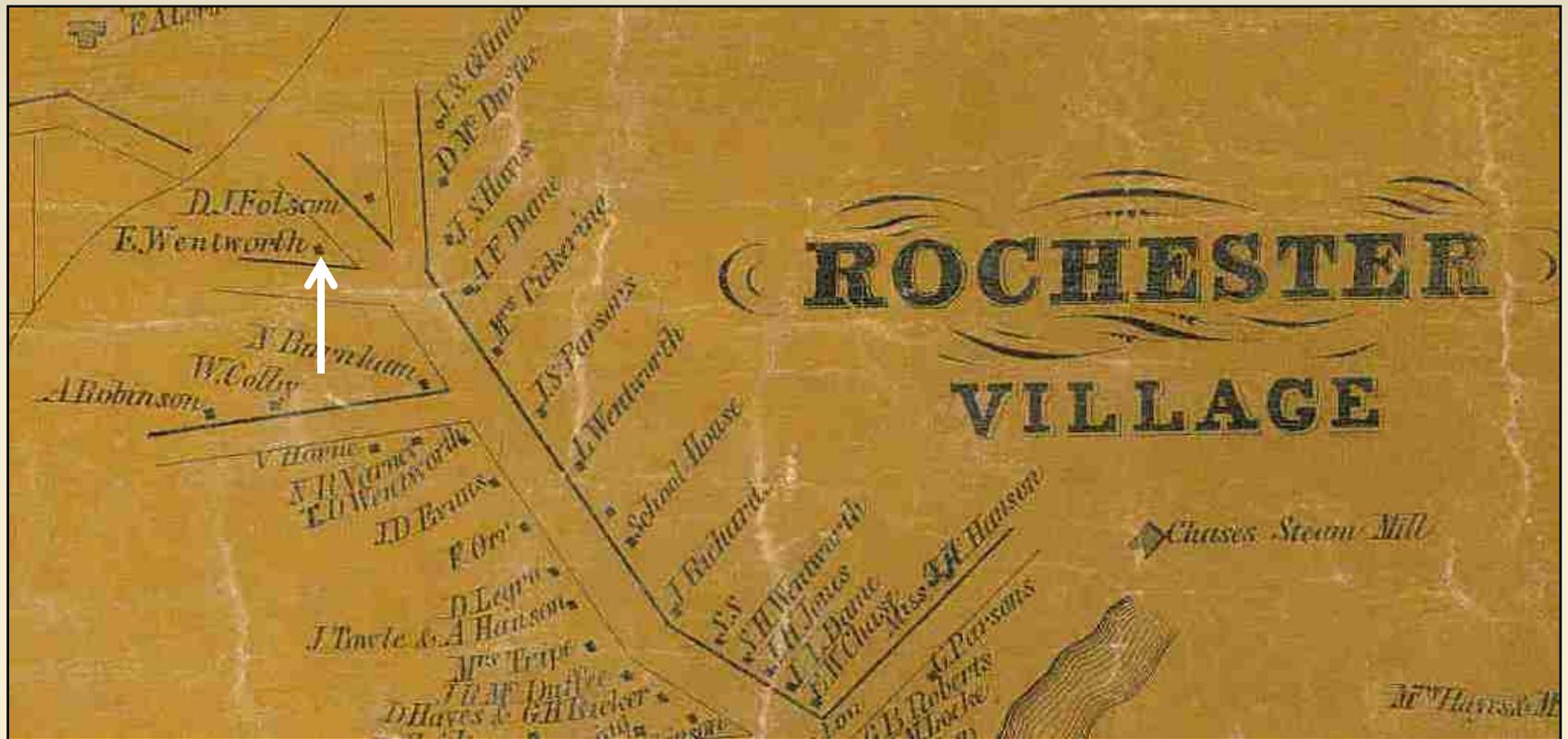


2-4 Walnut Street
Rochester, NH

2015

Stantec: Strafford Square
E. Wentworth Homestead (27-ST-113)
Homestead Location Illustrated on Proposed Project Plans
INDEPENDENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTING, LLC

Ezekiel and Elisabeth Wentworth Homestead (27 ST-113)



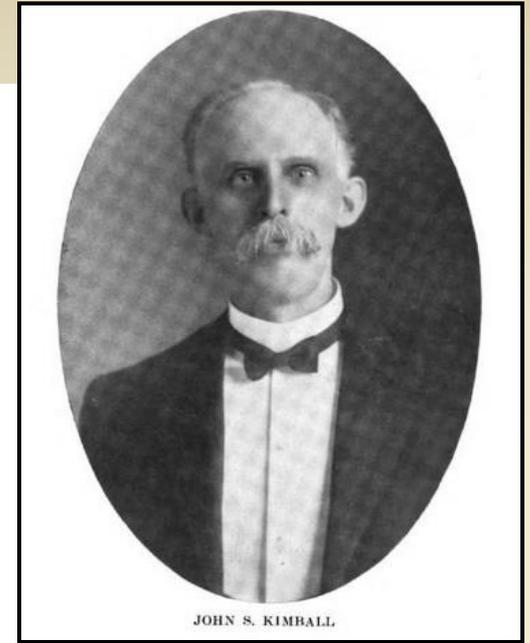
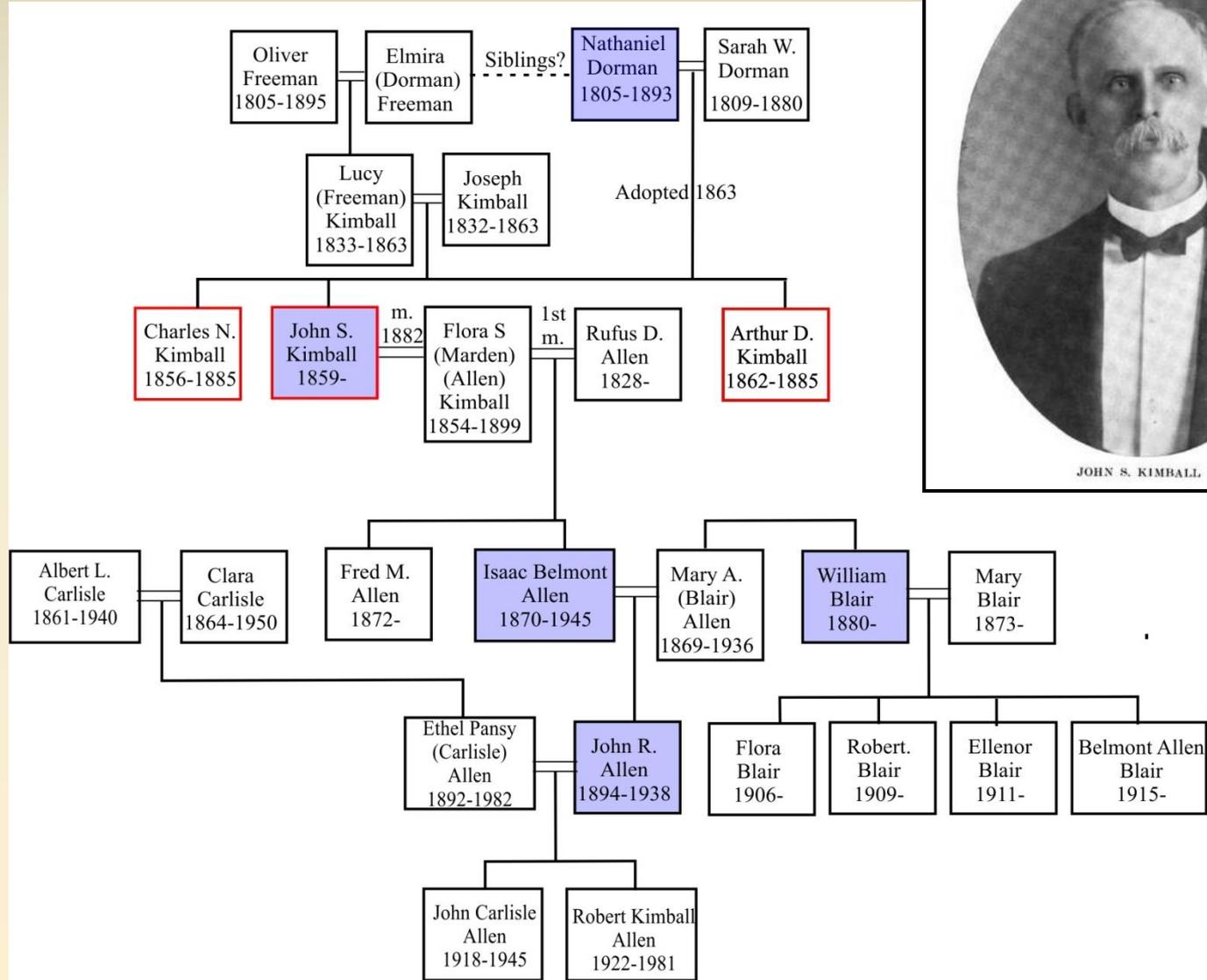
Built ca. 1853

Ezekiel Wentworth (1824-1905)
Elisabeth Wentworth (born 1833)
2 young daughters

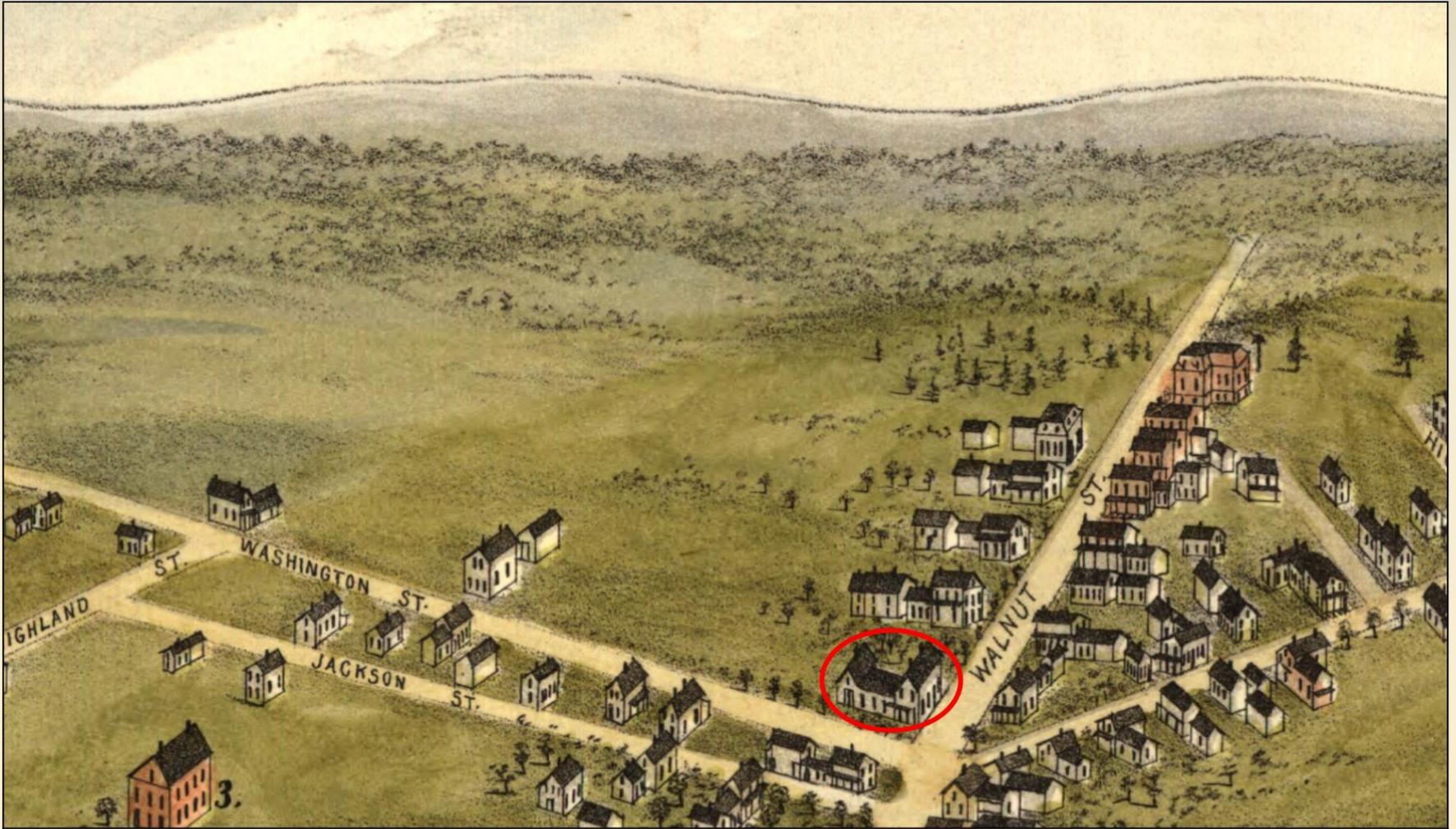
Chace 1856

Dorman-Kimball-Allen Families

1867-1920s

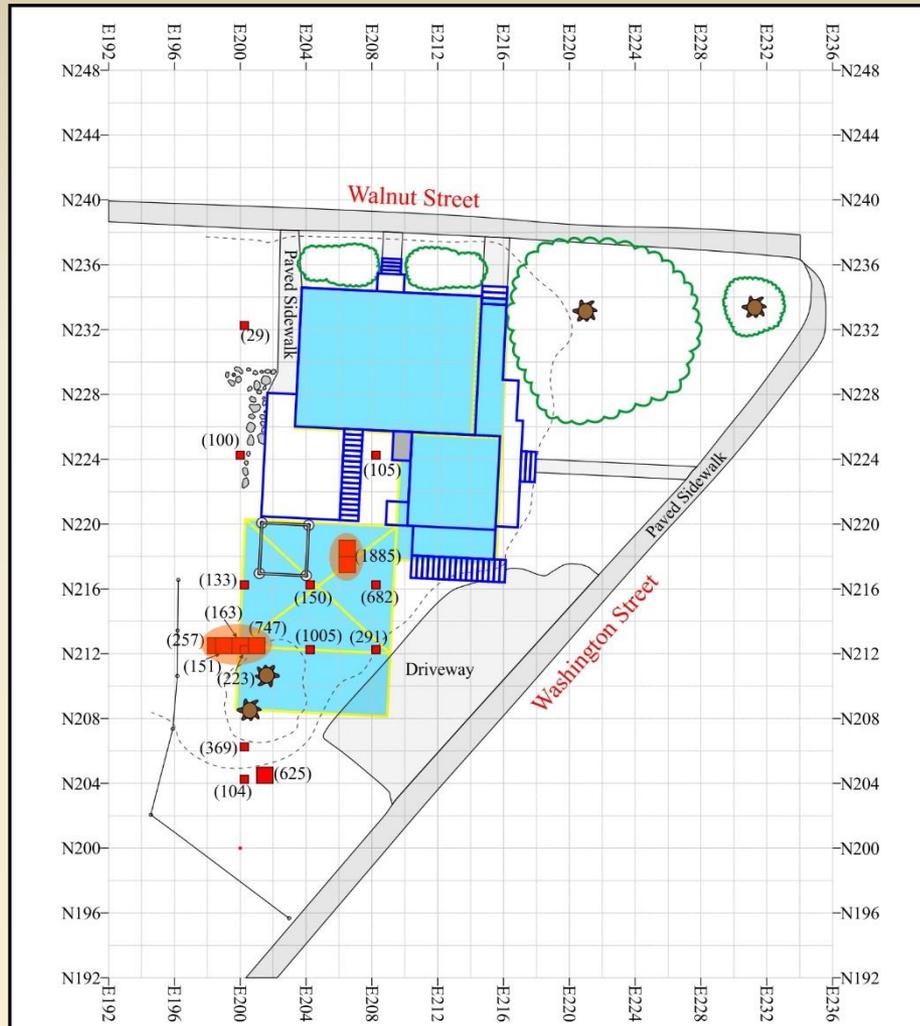


Wentworth House in 1877

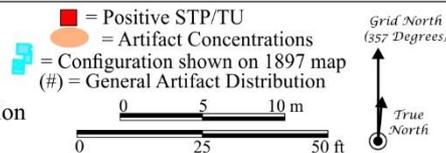


Dr. Nathaniel Dorman and family, farming 105 acres

Excavations – May/June 2015



Stantec: Strafford Square
 Rochester, NH
 Wentworth Homestead (27-ST-113)
 Artifact density in relation to 1897 configuration
 (after 1897 Sanborn Insurance Map)
 INDEPENDENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTING, LLC



2-4 Walnut Street



Phase IB and Phase II
 11 shovel test pits
 6 test units

Excavations – May/June 2015

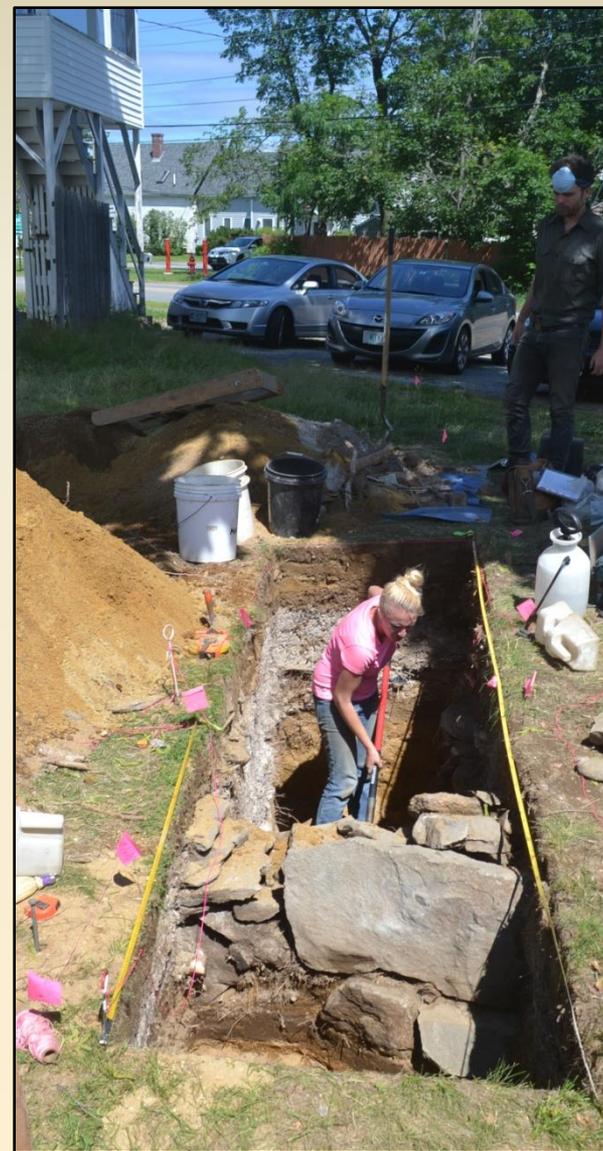
Dense artifact concentrations

7,019 artifacts

Late 19th- to Early 20th-century



Trench N212 E198 showing layered deposits (stratigraphy) and dense artifact concentration



7,019 Artifacts



Alternative Mitigation Plan

44 Medicine Bottles



Research Questions:

- 19th-century medical choices in Rochester?
- Proprietary medicine availability and cost?
- Which used by Wentworth site residents?

Medical Choices

- Regular

- ❖ Allopathic medicine

- Irregular

- ❖ Homeopathy

- ❖ Botanical medicine

- ❖ Patent and Proprietary Medicine



Regular or Allopathic Physician



Cathartics (laxative)

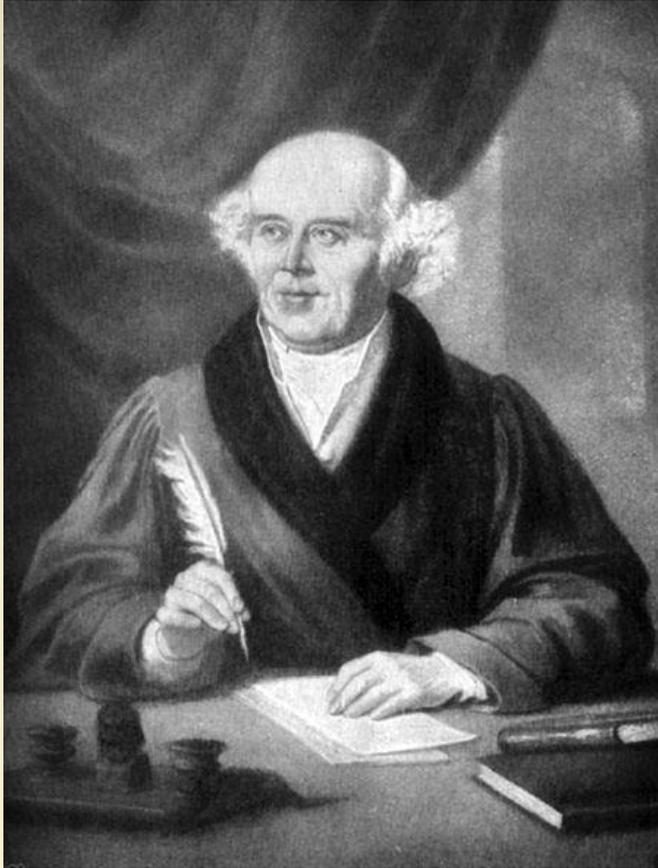
Emetics (to induce vomiting)

Bleeding



Est. 1847

Homeopathy (*like cures like*)



Samuel Hahnemann (Germany 1796)



Introduced to US 1825

Botanical Medicine



Samuel Thomson, herbalist

"Botanic Family Physician" (1825)



Patent and Proprietary Medicines

MEDICAL.

MRS. LYDIA E. PINKHAM.
OF LYNN, MASS.



DISCOVERER OF
LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S
VEGETABLE COMPOUND.

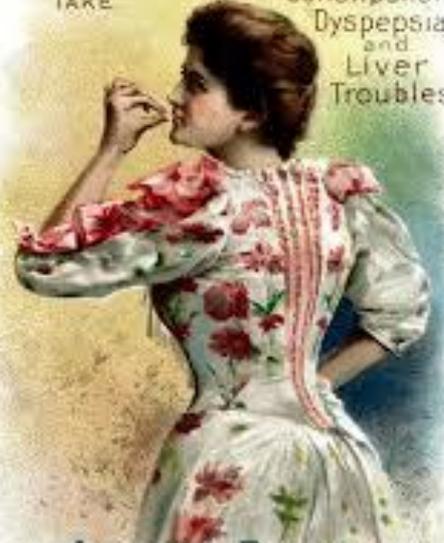
The Positive Cure
For all Female Complaints.

\$1- \$2



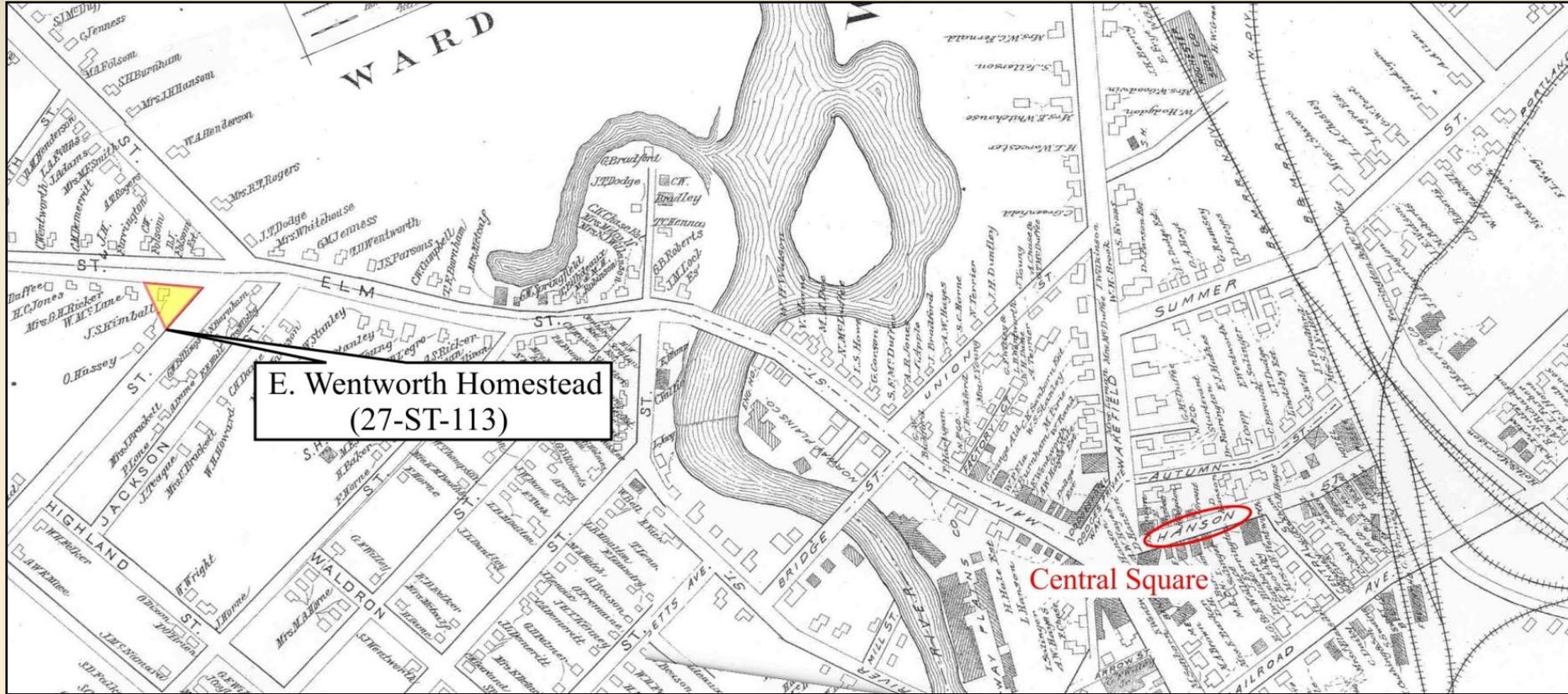
AYER'S PILLS
THE BEST
FAMILY MEDICINE,
CURE
Sick Headache,
Constipation,
Dyspepsia
and
Liver
Troubles.

EASY TO
TAKE

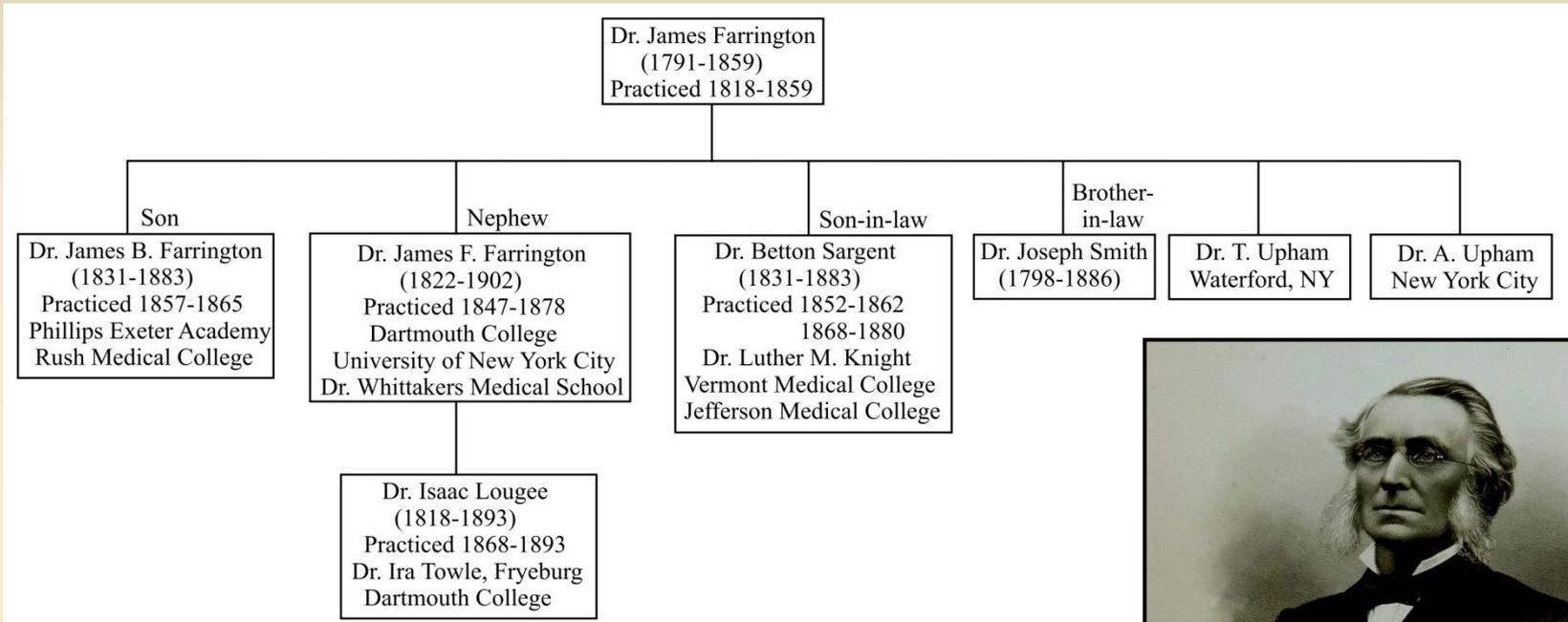


AYER'S PILLS
Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass. U.S.A.
EVERY DOSE EFFECTIVE

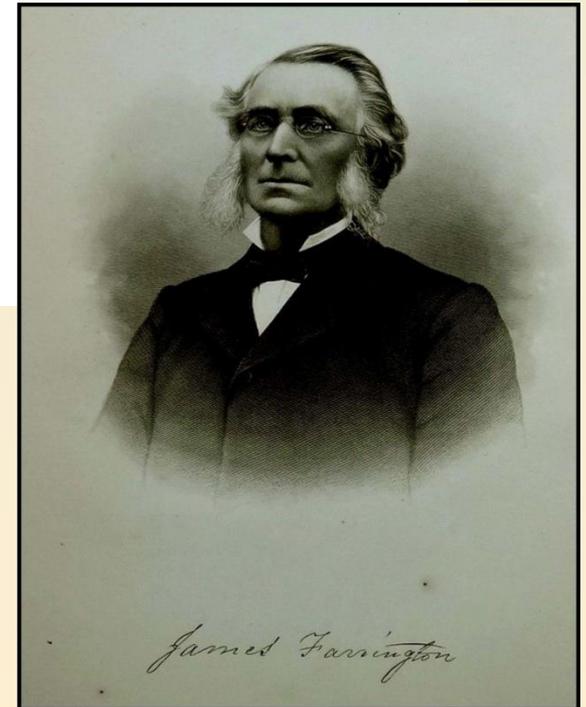
Rochester's Medical Marketplace



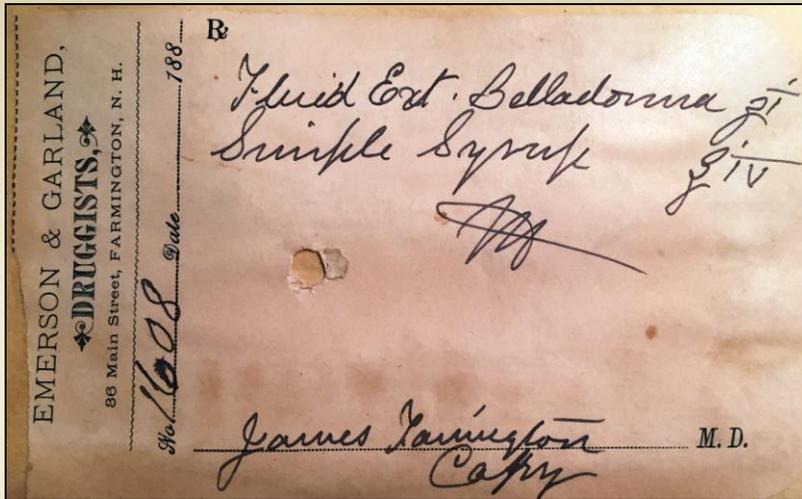
Rochester's Medical Lineage



Dr. James Farrington,
mentor



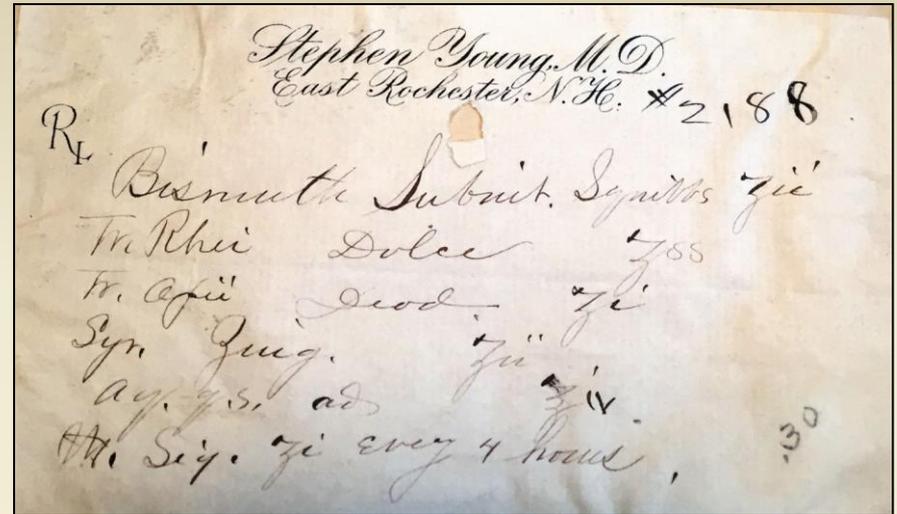
Prescriptions



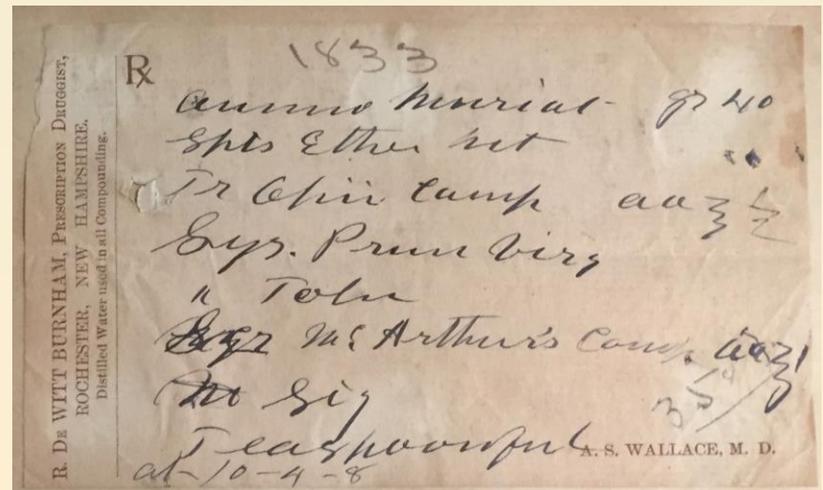
Rx from Rochester physician James Farrington M. D., 1880s

10 – 35 cents

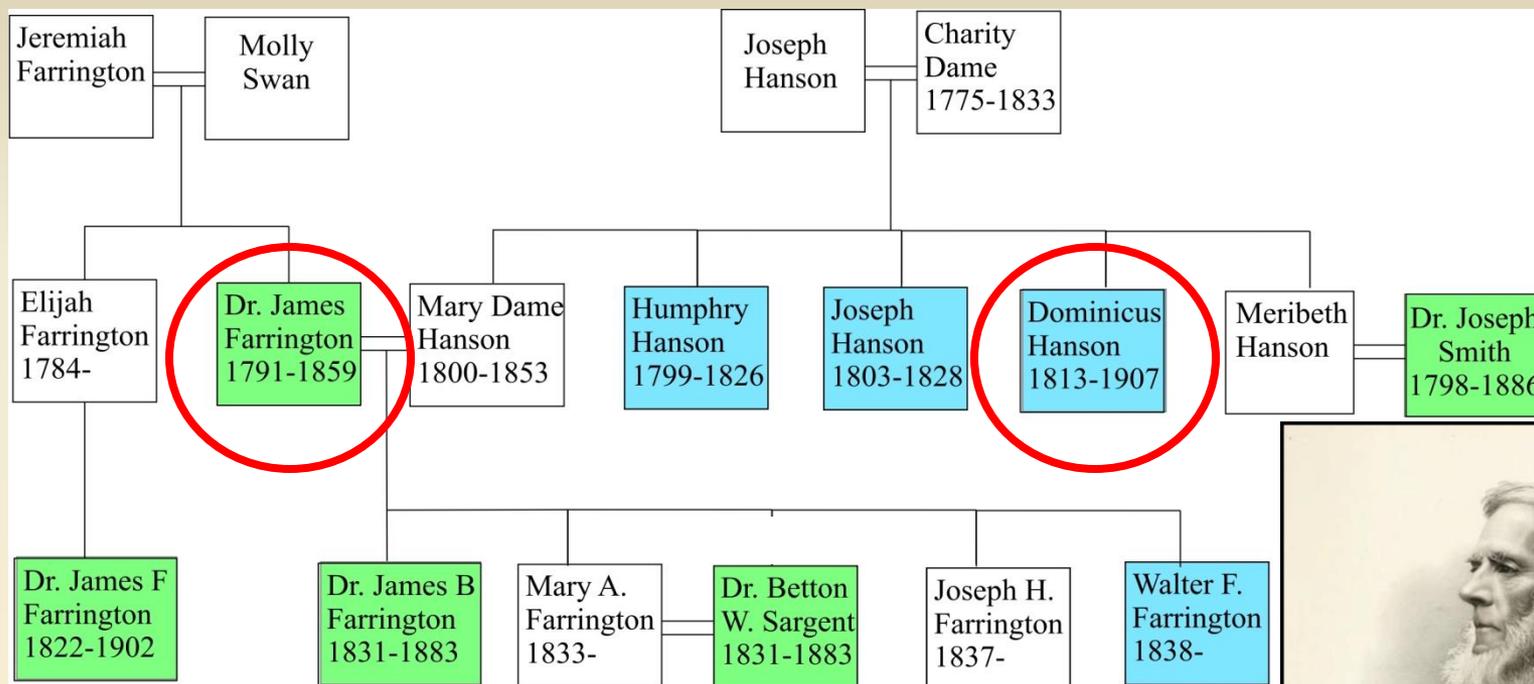
Prescription written on R. DeWitt Burnham pharmacy pad, 1890s



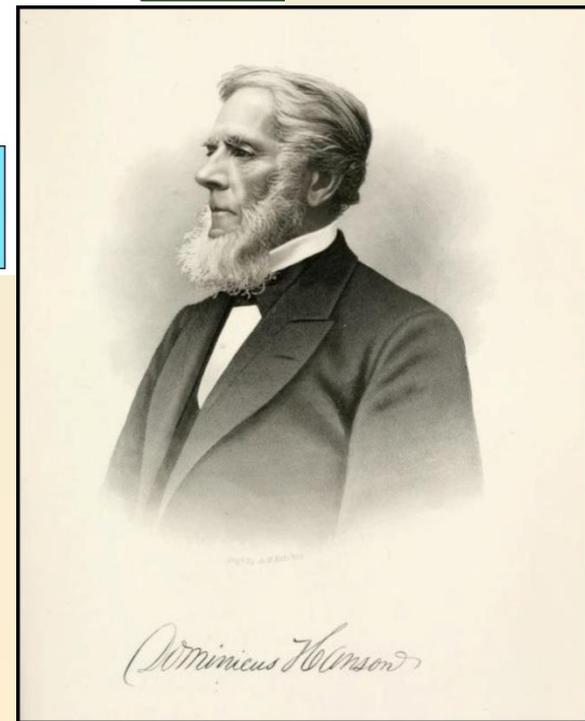
Rx from Stephen Young M.D., East Rochester, 1890s



Farrington and Hanson Family Connection



Physicians (green)
Apothecaries (blue)



Doctor's Offices and Apothecaries

1856

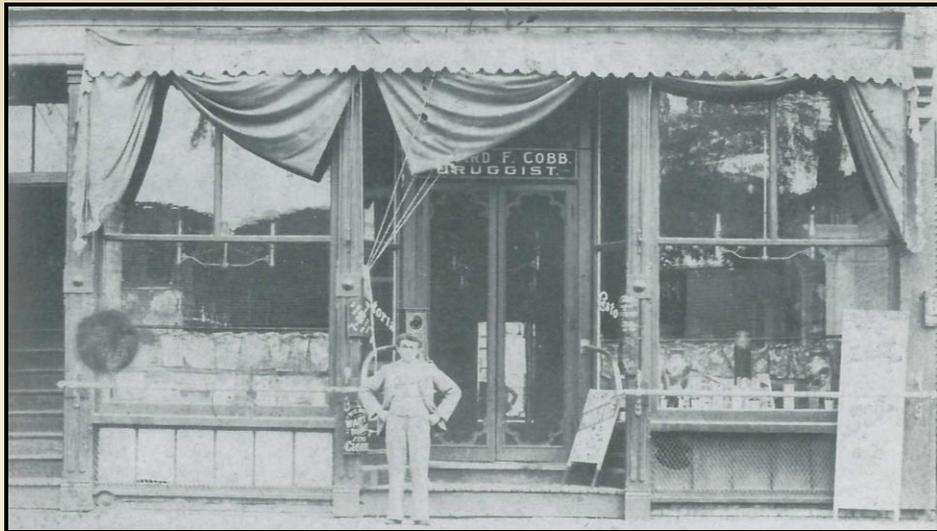


Rochester, New Hampshire
Wentworth Homestead (27-ST-113) Mitigation
Chace (1856) map of Rochester
INDEPENDENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTING, LLC

○ : Drs. Farrington Residences and Office
■ : Hanson's Apothecary

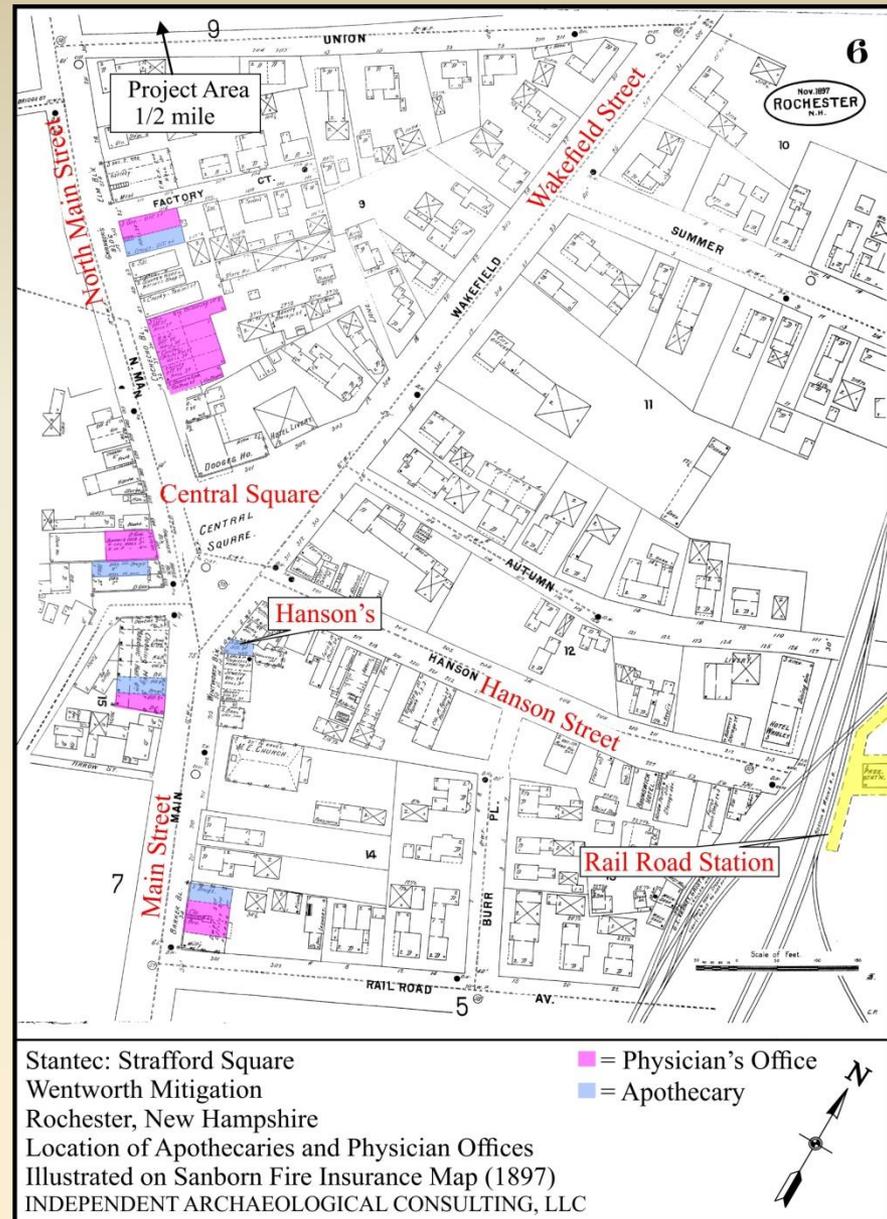


Apothecaries



Cobb Drug Store on North Main Street

Directory year	Number of physicians	Number of apothecaries	Rochester population
1871	6	11	4103
1882	8	4	5784
1897	11	5	7396
1902	13	8	8466



1897

Hanson's Drug Store



Main Street before 1868



DOMINICUS HANSON,
Rochester, - New Hampshire.
Dealer in
DRUGS MEDICINES, CHEMICALS,
FANCY TOILET SOAPS, FINE HAIR AND
TOOTH BRUSHES, &c. &c.
Surgical Instruments and Cutlery,
PURE WINES AND LIQUORS for MEDIC-
INAL PURPOSES.
Trusses, Supporters and Shoulder Braces,
Potash, Burning Fluid, Kerosene, Neats Foot
and Sperm Oil.
Books, Stationery & Fancy Articles
CHOICE FAMILY GROCERIES
Patent Medicines, Dye-Stuff &c. &c.
October, 1868.

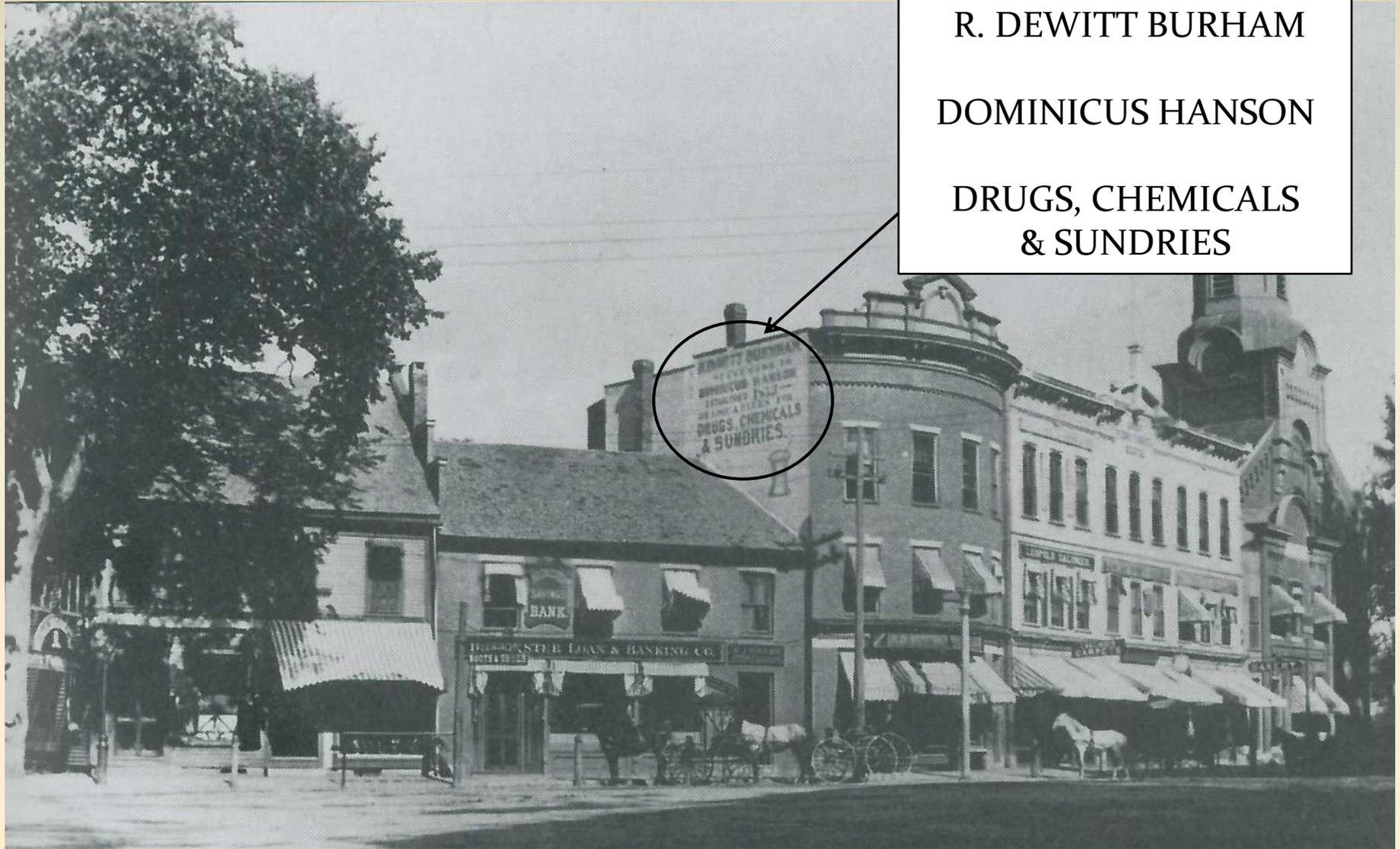
Rochester Courier, 1873

DeWitt Burnham's Drug Store

R. DEWITT BURHAM

DOMINICUS HANSON

DRUGS, CHEMICALS
& SUNDRIES



Former Drug Store, today



Competition in the Medical Marketplace: Proprietary Formulas

1896

**DON'T
BE DECEIVED.**

DeWitt's Headache Powders

are gaining in popularity every day, and we are constantly getting calls and mail orders for them saying that "They are the only Powders that cure" and "they stopped my headache in very few minutes," etc.

Right here we want to tell you why we don't want you to be deceived. We are told, from authentic and reliable sources, that certain druggists in this city are putting out a Headache Powder and telling the people that "They are just the same Powder as Burnham's and made after the same formula."

This statement we pronounce as utterly *false*, as we are ready to prove it so, and *defy* any druggist in this city to give the formula of our Headache Powders. We know they can't because they don't know it, although they claim to. They do this to sell their own and profit by the reputation that ours has justly earned.

Respectfully,

R. DeWITT BURNHAM.

Patent and Proprietary Medicines

A MARVELOUS DISCOVERY

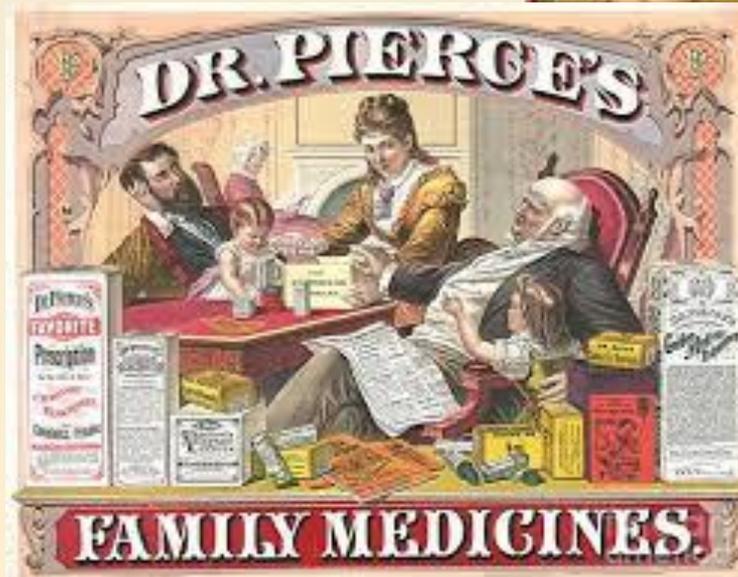
**DR. KING'S
NEW DISCOVERY
FOR CONSUMPTION**

The only sure cure for Consumption in the World
AND ALL DISEASES OF THE THROAT CHEST AND LUNGS.

PERMANENTLY CURES
Coughs, Colds, Asthma, Bronchitis, Incipient Consumption, Lung Fever, Pneumonia, Loss of Voice, Hemorrhage of the Lungs, Dry, Hacking Cough, Tickling in the Throat, Quinsy, Shortness of Breath, Phthisic, Etc.

HUNDREDS OF HOPELESS CASES ARE BEING CURED EVERY DAY BY.

\$1 - \$2



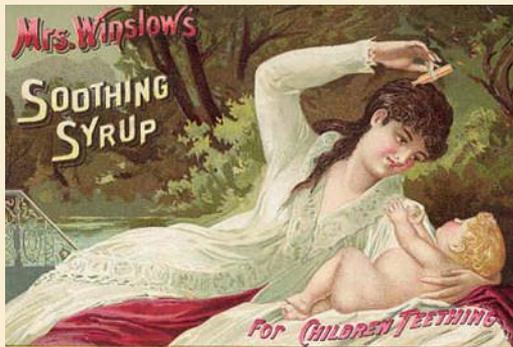
A Word About Alcohol....



- Low cost
- Widely available
- More frequent use during and after Civil War
- Spirits regularly given to hospital patients

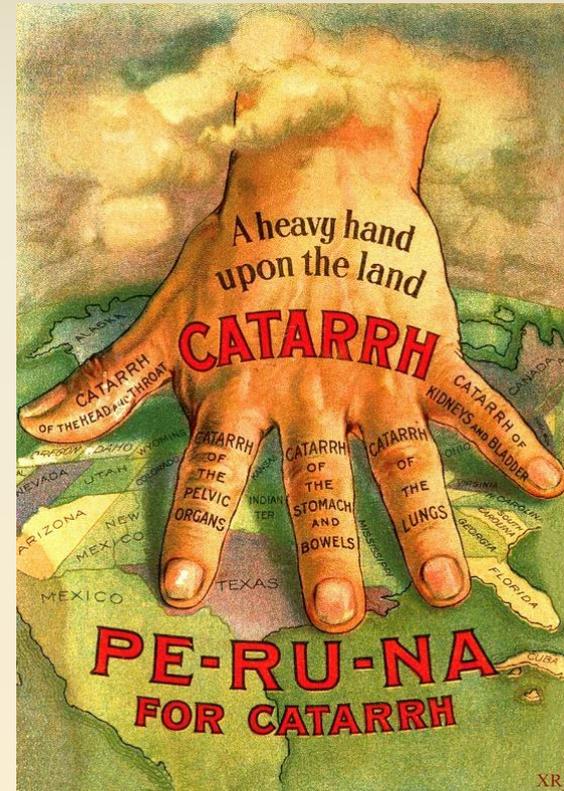
Pure Food & Drug Act of 1906

- Response to rapid rise of patent medicine industry, which doubled every 10 to 15 years
- 50,000 different patent medicines by 3,000 manufacturers by early 1900s
- Industry worth \$75 million (\$2 billion in current dollars)
- Challenge broad claims
- Addictive ingredients – alcohol, cocaine, opium



Pure Food & Drug Act of 1906

- Act required listing ingredients
- Regulated against making misleading statements
- Many counterclaims and lawsuits taking years to implement
- Swift impact – growth ceased
- 1/3 of manufacturers out of business by 1916



44 Medicine Bottles



Vessel Form	Shape	Commercial Mark	Total
Bottle	Chamfer-cornered Square	none	4
Bottle	Cylindrical	none	4
Bottle	Ovoid	none	6
Bottle	Ovoid w/ flat sides	none	3
Bottle	Rectangular	none	11
Vial	Cylindrical	none	2
Bottle	Ovoid	Dr. Hubbard's Vegetable Disinfectant	2
Bottle	Rectangular	California Fig Syrup Co. San Francisco, CA	1
Bottle	Chamfer-cornered Rectangle	George E. Fairbanks Worcester, Mass- Children's Comfort	1
Bottle	Cylindrical	John Wyeth & Bro	2
Bottle	Cylindrical	Johnson's American Anodyne Liniment	2
Bottle	Ovoid	Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound	1
Bottle	Cylindrical	Mellin's Infant's Food- Doliber Goodale Co., Boston	1
Bottle	Ovoid	Milk of Magnesia	1
Bottle	Chamfer-cornered Square	Paine's Celery Compound	1
Bottle	Rectangular	Twitchell Champlin & Co- Neuralgic Anodyne	1
Bottle	Rectangular	Wyeth & Bro. with dose cap	1
			44

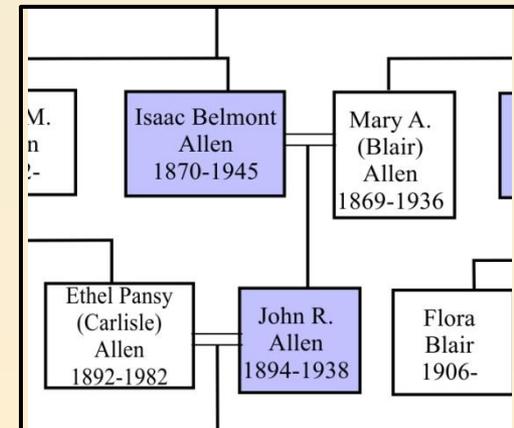
44 Medicine Bottles

Proprietary Medicine Name	Approximate Date	Cost per bottle
California Fig Syrup Co. San Francisco, CA	1880-1890	50 cents - \$1
Children's Comfort / George E. Fairbanks Worcester, Mass	1890s	
John Wyeth & Bro	1872-1907	variable
Wyeth & Bro. with dose cap	1899+	variable
Johnson's American Anodyne Liniment	1890s	25-35 cents
Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound	1876-1920	\$1
Mellin's Infant's Food- Doliber Goodale Co., Boston	Post 1890	75 cents
Milk of Magnesia	Post 1906	50 cents
Dr. Hubbard's Vegetable Disinfectant	1895+	\$1-\$2
Paine's Celery Compound	Post 1882	60 cents
Twitchell Champlin & Co- Neuralgic Anodyne	1883-1930s	25 cents

“safe and reliable remedy for all ailments of children and a sure prevention of Cholera”



Children's Comfort



44 Medicine Bottles



California Fig Syrup Co., est 1879

“effective laxative to cure habitual constipation and many ills”

\$.50 to \$1/bottle

6% alcohol



1880s to 1900

44 Medicine Bottles

1810-1930s



JOHNSON'S

Instead of getting excited and sending in all directions for a doctor when pain next visits your household just remember that **Johnson's Anodyne Liniment** has for nearly a century cured both internal and external pains.

A few drops taken on sugar quickly relieves and cures coughs, colds, croup, tonsillitis, bronchitis, asthma and other respiratory troubles; also cramps, colic, cholera, diarrhoea and other internal complaints requiring prompt treatment. When rubbed in well it banishes all external body aches and pains such as strains, sprains, lameness of muscles, muscular rheumatism, cuts, burns, insect bites and stings, frostbites, chaps, chilblains, and many other troubles that flesh is heir to.

Don't wait until trouble troubles you but be prepared for it by getting a bottle to-day. Sold everywhere.

25 cents—three times as much for 50 cents
I. S. JOHNSON & CO., Boston, Mass.

LINIMENT

“For coughs, colds, grippy cold, colic, asthmatic distress, bronchial colds, nasal catarrh, cholera morbus, cramps, diarrhea, bruises, common sore throat, burns and scalds, chaps and chafing, chilblains, frost bites, muscular rheumatism, soreness, sprains and strains.”

Waterford and Bangor, Maine

main ingredients –
morphine and alcohol

Ether “must be kept well corked”



44 Medicine Bottles

Lydia Pinkham's "Vegetable Compound"
Trademarked 1876
Lynn, Massachusetts

Addressed "problem" of female
debility and nervousness

15% alcohol

Survived 1906 Food & Drug Act –
produced into the 1930s



\$1 bottle

Social Tragedy



Women Who Brave Death for Social Honors.
In the midst of one of the most brilliant social functions of the season, a noted society woman started suddenly from her chair with a scream of agony and fell insensible to the floor.
A few hours later the distinguished physician told her anxious husband that she was suffering from an acute case of nervous prostration brought on by female trouble, and hinted at an operation. Fortunately a friend advised her to try



Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound

The result was that she escaped the surgeon's knife and to-day is a well woman.



44 Medicine Bottles

"We are advertised by our loving friends."

GIVE THE BABY
Mellin's Food

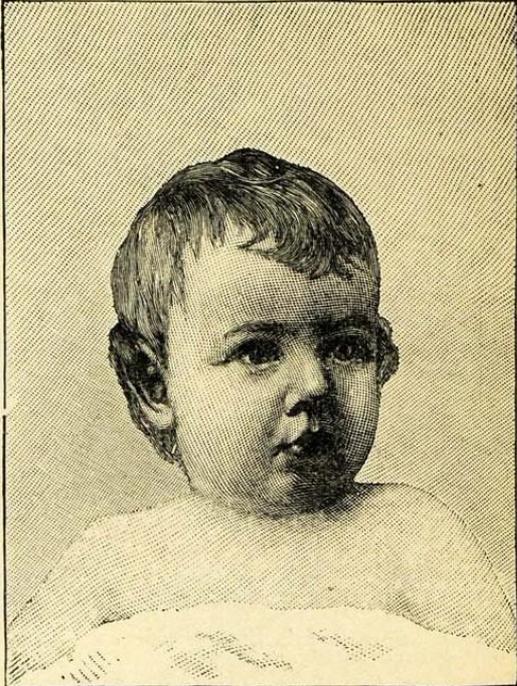
If you wish your infant to be well nourished,
healthy bright, and active, and to grow
up happy, robust, and vigorous.

The BEST FOOD for Hand-fed Infants,
Invalids, Convalescents, Dyspeptics,
and the Aged is

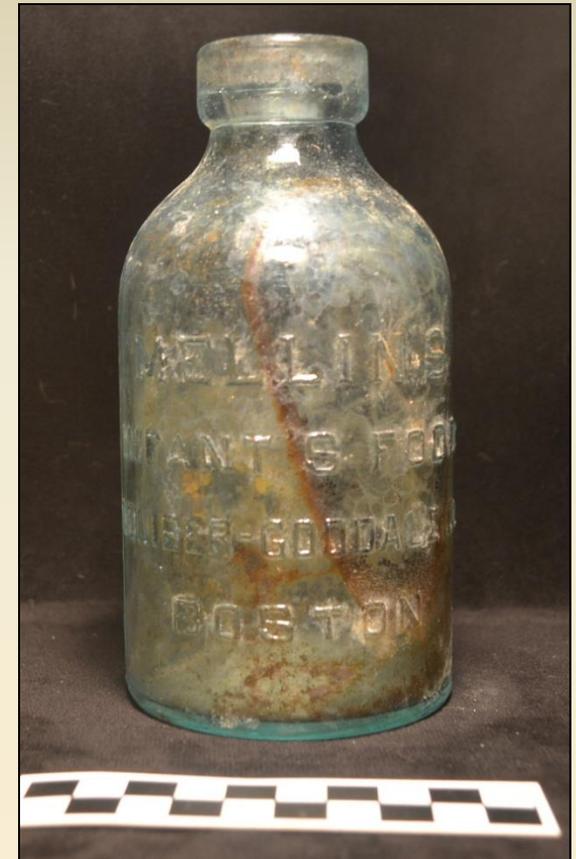
MELLIN'S FOOD
For Infants and Invalids.

Our Book for the instruction of mothers,
"The Care and Feeding of Infants,"
will be mailed free to any address upon
request.

DOLIBER-GOODALE CO.,
BOSTON, MASS.



WATKINS BENERMAN,
Philadelphia.



1880 - 1906, Boston

75 cents/bottle

Powdered formula to be diluted with
water or milk for infants and invalids.

44 Medicine Bottles

“Celery Compound Cures Disease of the Nerves, Kidneys, Liver, Stomach, and Bowels, and acts as a Blood Purifier and Tonic to the Central System”



PAINE'S CELERY COMPOUND Strengthens Racked Nerves.

Adj. S. W. Groomes, 140 East Jones St., Dayton, Ohio,
writes:

"I had great relief from Paine's Celery Compound last December. While living in Columbus I took a heavy cold that resulted in the grip. I suffered intense pain with my head for three months. No medicine seemed to do me any good until I began using Paine's Celery Compound. All the suffering in my head was soon gone, and I have Celery Compound alone to thank for my cure."

Suffering has its first effect upon the nerves. When the body is not sustained by nerve energy, indigestion, slow circulation of the blood, and an impoverished system result.



1882 – early 1900s

60 cents/bottle

Allegedly containing traces of cocaine

44 Medicine Bottles



Twitchell Champlin & Co Neuralgic Anodyne

**IT STOPS
THE PAIN**

If taken internally
or applied as a liniment

Neuralgic Anodyne

Quickly stops all pain and relieves the pain-racked sufferer. The family medicine chest should never be without it. It is an invaluable remedy in case of sudden need.

Ask your Dealer for it, and see that you get Neuralgic Anodyne.

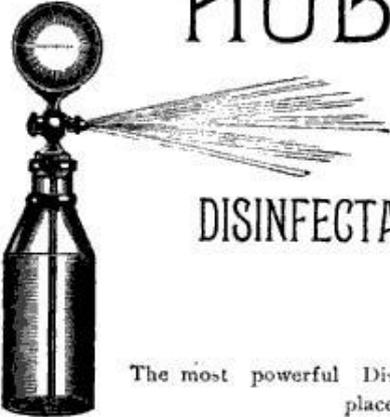
25 YEARS OF SUCCESS **PRICE**
PROVE ITS WORTH. PER BOTTLE, **25c.**

THE TWITCHELL-CHAMPLIN CO., Props., Portland, Maine.

1883-1930s

25 cents for small bottle

44 Medicine Bottles



HUBBARD'S
TRADE **VEGETABLE** MARK.
DISINFECTANT, DEODORIZER, AND
GERMICIDE.

The most powerful Disinfectant and perfect Germicide ever placed before the public.

Extracts from Dr. H. C. Clapp's Paper, N. E. Medical Gazette, November, 1888:—

“The recommendation is made entirely without Hubbard's knowledge. I expect it to in no wise effect the fact that for each bottle I use, I pay him full retail price.”

“It is, however, as a remarkable *deodorizer* that I particularly desire to call your attention to this substance; and as such, of course, it can be easily tested by all people with average olfactories; for bad smells, like the poor, we have with us always.”

85% alcohol

\$1.25 to \$2.00/bottle (with atomizer)

Dr. Hubbard's
Vegetable Disinfectant, and Germicide
1880s to early 1900s

“Useful in the treatment of throat, nose and troubles of the catarrhal nature. An antiseptic spray or lotion for cuts, wounds, burns, bites of insects, etc”



44 Medicine Bottles

JOHN WYETH & BRO

forerunner to major pharmaceutical
company, Pfizer.



Dosage cap with embossed numbers
indicates time of next dose.

Educational Materials Rochester Middle School



Educational Materials Rochester Middle School



Exhibit case and educational posters for Social Studies curriculum (pictured – Ellen Marlatt of IAC and RMS teacher, Nichole Gallagher)