

# PLYMOUTH COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS

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JOHN R. BUCKLEY, JR., REGISTER OF DEEDS  
PLYMOUTH COUNTY REAL ESTATE ACTIVITY FOR NOVEMBER 2020

## REAL ESTATE CONTINUES TO SOAR OVER COVID

The mortgage numbers kept the Plymouth County Registry of Deeds busy in November. According to Register John R. Buckley, Jr., "Every month I expect to see a drop off in the mortgage numbers, and instead every month the numbers remain high. November mortgages, although 2% less than last month, nevertheless came in at the third highest total number of mortgages recorded this year." Register Buckley added, "The 3,161 mortgages recorded in November trailed only September and October." Plymouth County has recorded 30,577 mortgages through November, 2020, a 46% increase over the 20,925 mortgages recorded a year ago at this time. Homeowners are continuing to lower their mortgage payments.

While the number of mortgage filings continue at a high rate, real estate sales have also kept us busy at the Registry. Even with the obvious coronavirus limitations, Plymouth County recorded 957 deeds in November, 9% higher than the 877 deeds recorded during November, 2019. Overall, Plymouth County has recorded 9,537 deeds through the first eleven (11) months of the year. During the same coronavirus-free period last year, the Registry recorded almost the same amount of sales, 9,570. Register Buckley noted, "Normally we see a slow-down in activity during the holiday season, but of course this year is anything but normal."

Notwithstanding the ending of the foreclosure moratorium in October, foreclosure activity remains quiet. Plymouth County recorded 5 foreclosure deeds, compared to 11 foreclosures deeds recorded last month. Through November, Plymouth County recorded 157 foreclosure deeds, representing a 47% decrease from the 294 foreclosure deeds that were recorded through this time last year.

Plymouth County recorded 6 notices initiating a new potential foreclosure in November, bringing the total for the year to 226. Last year at this time 662 notices had been recorded. This represents a 66% decrease, largely attributable to the recently concluded moratorium. Register Buckley believes with the lifting of the moratorium, it is only a matter of time when the foreclosure numbers go up.

As part of our ongoing effort to share with the public some of America's oldest records, and recognizing the limitations in place due to the coronavirus, we are attaching an exhibit from the collection of our notable Plymouth Colony records. This exhibit recognizes many "firsts" for America. They include a law establishing the office of the Town Clerk, one of the first public works projects, the Cutt at Greenes Harbor, and one of America's first public transportation projects, the ferry over the Jones River. "Joseph Rogers be allowed a constant ferry over Jones River ... & to take a penny for the transportacon of each pson ...." Court Orders, Vol. I, p. 87; March 2, 1636.

When conditions permit we will resume our monthly display of these wonderful and historic documents in the Plymouth Colony Records Reading Room here at the Registry of Deeds. In the meantime please enjoy the attached records and stay safe and healthy.

Call Lorna Green-Baker at (508) 830-9290 for further information. If you would like to receive the monthly report by e-mail, please contact Assistant Register of Deeds Timothy H. White at [white@plymouthdeeds.org](mailto:white@plymouthdeeds.org).

#### REAL ESTATE ACTIVITY FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2020 COMPARED TO THE SAME PERIOD IN 2019

All figures are based on sales or mortgages between \$25,000.00 and \$3,000,000.

2020 sales volume: 9,537

2019 sales volume: 9,570

(0% increase)

2020 total sales value: \$4,635,374,091

2019 total sales value: \$4,220,643,432

(10% increase)

2020 average sales price: \$486,041

2019 average sales price: \$441,029

(10% increase)

2020 mortgage volume: 30,577

2019 mortgage volume: 20,925

(46% increase)

2020 average mortgage amount: \$337,514

2019 average mortgage amount: \$313,450

(8% increase)

2020 foreclosure deeds: 157

2019 foreclosure deeds: 294

(47% decrease)

2020 foreclosure notices: 226

2019 foreclosure notices: 662

(66% decrease)

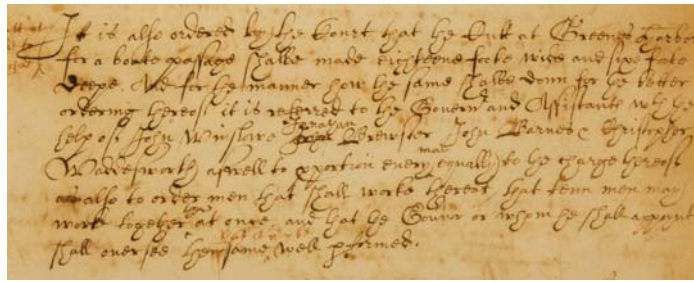
# Foreclosures and Orders of Notice November 2020

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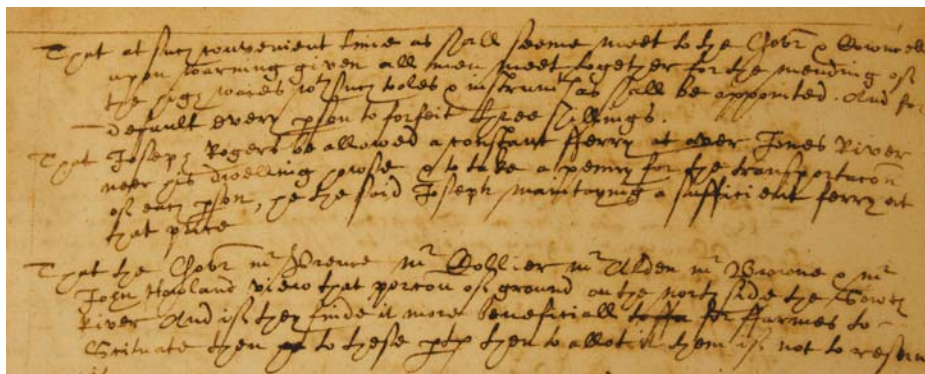
<b>Town</b>	<b>Foreclosure Deeds</b>	<b>Orders of Notice</b>
ABINGTON	1	0
BRIDGEWATER	0	0
BROCKTON	2	2
CARVER	0	0
DUXBURY	0	0
EAST BRIDGEWATER	0	0
HALIFAX	0	1
HANOVER	0	0
HANSON	0	0
HINGHAM	0	0
HULL	0	0
KINGSTON	0	0
LAKEVILLE	0	1
MARION	0	0
MARSHFIELD	1	0
MATTAPOISETT	0	0
MIDDLEBORO	0	0
NORWELL	0	0
PEMBROKE	1	1
PLYMOUTH	0	0
PLYMPTON	0	0
ROCHESTER	0	0
ROCKLAND	0	0
SCITUATE	0	1
WAREHAM	0	0
WEST BRIDGEWATER	0	0
WHITMAN	0	0

# Firsts In America

The colonial records provide many “firsts” for America. One of the first public works projects recorded in our country was an order of the colonial government in 1636, that “the Cutt at Greenes Harbor for a boate passage shalbe made ... that tenn men may worke together... and that the Gounor... shall ouersee ... that it may be well pformed.”



One of America’s first public transportation projects recorded was the 1636 government order that authorized “Joseph Rogers be allowed a constant ferry over Jones River, ... & to take a penny for the transportacon of each pson ....”



A 17th century law establishing the position of town clerk in each community reads as follows “... That there shall be in every Towne ... a Cleark ... ordayned to keepe a register of the day and yeare of the marriage, birth, and buriall of euery man woeman and child wthin their townshippe.”

