

JOSEPH HENRY EASTMAN

The Watchmaker, the Clockmaker, the Man

BY KEN HOGWOOD (FL)

The June 1986 *Bulletin* featured an excellent article about the known business life of Joseph H. Eastman and the clock-manufacturing companies with which he was associated. Author Harold Cherry ended the article with questions: What was his background? Was he a family man? Was he formally educated? Where did he live? He challenged others to pick up the quest to answer these questions, and I have spent many hours trying to do just this. I have gone back to original records and documents for answers.

Joseph H. Eastman spent most of his life in the Boston area, and much of my research was found in the *Boston City Directories*. I also searched, through ancestry.com, the census records, available local town records, and newspaper announcements. There are also proven first-person accounts discovered by Edwin B. Burt and others who have provided original research.

Popular belief is that Joseph H. Eastman lived in Fair Haven, VT, for a time, during his association with Fair Haven Manufacturing Co. and Vermont Clock Company, from 1896 to 1902. No records showed him as a permanent resident of Fair Haven. However, he did spend enough time in Fair Haven to become a member of Eureka Lodge F. & A.M., and he was raised as a Master Mason on April 14, 1898. This was confirmed by a past Grand Master from lodge records. He probably boarded in a private home during this period and traveled back to his Roxbury home frequently, because I found Joseph H. Eastman and his family residing at 38 Quincy Ave., Roxbury (now part of Boston), in 1896, with a business address of 90 Canal Street, Boston. The same home address was listed in the 1897-1898 *Boston Directory*, but no business address was listed.

In the 1899 *Boston Directory* the 90 Canal St. business and a 38 Quincy Ave. residence addresses were listed.

The 1900 *Boston City Directory* listed a business address of 103 State St., Room #8, Boston, and it still showed him living at 38 Quincy Ave. The 1900 Census showed the same home address.

The 1901 and 1902 directory listed a business address of 55 Sudbury, Boston, and a home address of 38 Quincy Ave., Roxbury.

Did he ever actually live in Fair Haven, VT? I have found no evidence he ever had a permanent residence outside of Boston during his association with Fair Haven Manufacturing Co. and Vermont Clock Company. With this data we must conclude that his Boston business ad-

resses were for sales and clerical duties for the company. It would have been important for the company to maintain a Boston business address, because Boston was the "hub" of commerce in that day and time.

We can learn a lot about Eastman from his home and business addresses, as proven by the above time and locations reported in the *Boston City Directories* and U.S. Census reports.

I hope the following time and place line gives a better insight into the life of Joseph H. Eastman.

WHERE JOSEPH HENRY EASTMAN LIVED AND WORKED

Eastman was born September 10, 1843, in Georgetown, MA, about 25 miles from the heart of Boston. He was the son of a shoemaker. The 1860 Census showed that he and his parents were living in Newton, NH (only a few miles from Boston), and he is listed as a shoemaker, probably an apprentice, because he was only 16 years old at the time.

In 1866, at age 22, he married Rosamond Frances Hannum, who was also a resident of Newton, NH (1860 Census).

In 1870-1872 the *Boston Directory* listed him at #5 Fremont Ave. and as a watchmaker. He was now 26 years old. He may have trained as a watchmaker at the E. Howard Company, but no employee records of the E. Howard Co. have survived to prove this.

He and his wife Rosamond had their first child Eva on February 9, 1870.

From 1875 to 1878 he lived at 69 Palmer Street and is listed as a watchmaker.

In 1880 he appeared to have been a freelance watchmaker, working at 105 Summer St., Room 21, Boston. His home address was 15 Water Street, East Somerville, MA (now a Boston suburb)

HARVARD CLOCK COMPANY

1880 was the year he would become a true clock manufacturer, at age 37. Joseph Eastman, Samuel S. Campbell, Charles M. Campbell, and James H. Gerry joined together to form the Harvard Clock Company, located at 147 Columbus Ave., Chelsea, MA, on November 20, 1880. This was Joseph Eastman's first venture in clock manufacturing.

It is estimated that Harvard Clock Company made about 800 clocks before changing the name of the company to Boston Clock Company by act of the Massachu-



Figure 1. Harvard carriage clock, ca. 1880-1884, S/N 551. Made in Boston, MA. Case: heavy gold-plated brass, beveled glass door and three sides, gold masked porcelain dial, damascene finished backplate. Movement: 8-day time only, three gold gilded plates, 11 jewels with compensated balance wheel. Size: 7" h x 3-7/8" w x 3-1/2" d. Listed with the Chelsea Clock Museum and Harvard Registry. Only eight are known to exist.

setts legislature on May 29, 1884. Harvard Clock Company was doing well, and there are only rumors as to why, after only three and a half years, the name was changed.

Only about 100 of the clocks made by Harvard Clock Company were carriage clocks. Only eight Harvard carriage clocks are known to exist today. If you have one, please register it with the Chelsea Clock Museum, Harvard Registry.

The Harvard Clock Company also made other types of clocks, as well as bank vault timing devices.

The 1882-1883 *Boston Directory*

Figure 2. Boston carriage clock, ca. 1888-1890, Athens model. Made in Boston, MA. Case: heavy gold-plated brass, beveled glass door and three sides, full porcelain dial, four fancy finials on top, multiribbed handle, bun feet, engraved front corner posts (some models have gold gilded mask). Movement: 8-day time only, three gold gilded plates, seven jewels with compensated balance wheel. Size: 6-1/2" h x 3-1/4" w x 3-1/4" d.

stated Joseph Eastman was the general manager of the Harvard Clock Company and resided at #4 Goodwin Place.



BOSTON CLOCK COMPANY

On May 19, 1884, Harvard Clock Company became Boston Clock Company. It remained at the same address, 147 Columbus Ave., Boston, MA.

Carriage clocks made by Boston Clock Company were the second most popular style of clocks produced in Joseph Eastman's numerous tries at clock manufacturing.

The five carriage clock models produced by Boston Clock Co. are named "Athens," "Delos," "Sparta," "Queen Anne," and "Cyprus." There also are many variations of each model; for example, some chapter rings were gilt masked and some had a full porcelain face. Some of the Cyprus and Delos cases were made in France, because they have a top window and metric screws. The same models also have cases made in the United States, which have no top window.

The best estimate is that between 1884 and 1894 the company produced a total of about 4,700 carriage clocks, not including the Cyprus model. Boston Clock Company serial numbered the movements consecutively, but not the cases. There-



Figure 3. Boston carriage clock, ca. 1884-1885, model Delos (Style 1). Made in Boston, MA. Case: heavy gold-plated brass, beveled glass door and three sides, full porcelain dial, flat top with multiribbed handle, cutaway backplate to view escapement, similar to other Boston carriage clocks (this is the earliest style Boston case). Movement: 8-day time only, three gold gilded plates, seven jewels with compensated balance wheel. Size: 6-1/2"h x 3-1/4"w x 3-1/4"d.

Figure 4. Boston carriage clock, ca. 1887-1888, model Delos (Style 2). Made in Boston, MA. Case: heavy gold-plated brass, beveled glass door and three sides, oval beveled glass on top, gilded mask with porcelain dial, handle similar to many French carriage clocks (this case was made in France). This clock is pictured in the 1890 Boston catalog. Movement: 8-day time only, three gold gilded plates, seven jewels with compensated balance wheel. Size: 6-1/2"h x 3-1/4"w x 3-1/4"d.



Figure 5, above. Boston carriage clock, ca. 1887-1890, Sparta model. Made in Boston, MA. Case: heavy gold-plated brass, beveled glass door and three sides, gilded mask with porcelain dial, four fancy finials on top, multiribbed handle, bun feet, 3/4 rounded corner posts. Movement: 8-day time only, three gold gilded plates, seven jewels with compensated balance wheel. Size: 6-1/2"h x 3-1/4"w x 3-1/4"d.

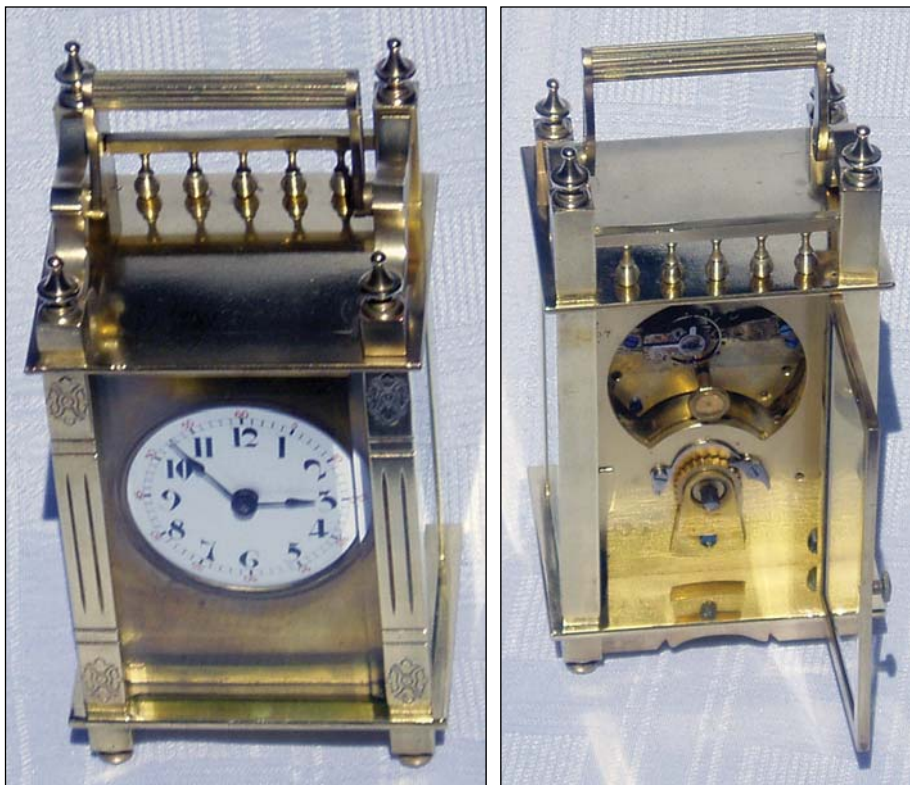


Figure 6. Boston carriage clock, ca. 1894, Queen Anne model. Made in Boston, MA. Case: heavy gold-plated brass, beveled glass door and three sides, gilded mask with porcelain dial, four fancy finials and chair rail on top, multiribbed handle, bun feet, engraved front corner posts (fanciest case in the Boston series). Movement: 8-day time only, three gold gilded plates, seven jewels with compensated balance wheel. Size: 6-1/2"h x 3-1/4"w x 3-1/4"d.

gold plated, 7-jewel lever escapements. Some early movements have a damascene design on the backplate. Nickel-plated, 11-jewel, damascened movements were an available option for both time-only and tandem-wind carriage clocks.

In 1886 Boston Clock Company moved to 403 Washington St., Boston, MA.

On June 25, 1886, Joseph Eastman was granted a patent for a "tandem wind" feature, which was incorporated in the Cyprus model carriage clock and other clocks made by Boston Clock Company.

Cyprus is the only Boston carriage clock to have the tandem-wind feature, which allowed time-and-strike spring barrels to be wound on a single winding square. It has an hour/half hour strike on a gong. Because of its unique movement, Cyprus was given a separate set of serial numbers. About 600 of this model were produced.

The Cyprus model came in at least four different case styles. Some cases were made in the United States and have no top window and a ribbed handle similar to other Boston carriage

fore, we do not know how many of each model was produced. The highest serial number found is no. 4586 on a Queen Anne model movement.

Boston carriage clock movements are all the same design except for those used in the striking Cyprus model. Standard movements were 8-day,

clocks. Others have a case imported from France with a top window, metric screws, and an octagon sectional

Figure 7. Boston carriage clock, ca. 1886, Cyprus model. Made in Boston, MA. Case: heavy gold-plated brass, beveled glass door and three sides, full porcelain dial, sculpted backplate. Some cases, with a top window and metric screws, were made in France. Movement: 8-day time and strike on a gong or bell, three gold gilded plates, seven jewels with compensated balance wheel, 11-jewel movement with damascene backplate was an option. Size: 7"h x 3-3/4"w x 3-1/2"d. Only model Boston carriage clock with the tandum-wind feature, patented 6/15/1886.



handle similar to those found on many French production carriage clocks. Some movements also have a damascened backplate, while other Cyprus models have a sculpted backplate. The Cyprus case is taller, wider, and deeper than any of the time-only model carriage clocks made by Boston Clock Company, thus accommodating the much larger tandem-wind movement.

The tandem-wind movement was also used in crystal regulators, ship's bell clocks, and some other wall and mantel clocks, which were wound from the front, unlike the Cyprus model. Boston Clock Co. made about 14,000 clocks with tandem-wind movements.

In 1886 Joseph Eastman was still listed as the general manager of Boston Clock Company, and he still lived at no. 6 Mills Ave., Roxbury.

In 1886 Eastman's second daughter Bessie was born on April 16. The family still lived at the same home address. He was 43 years old. There was a 16-year age difference between his two daughters.

Boston Clock Company published a catalog in 1890, which included ship's bell clocks, crystal regulators, a locomotive clock, mantel clocks, and carriage clocks. All five carriage clock models were available in its catalog. All models were offered for \$20, except the Cyprus, which was priced at \$37.50.

In 1890 Eastman moved his family to 171 Blue Hill Ave. and remained general manager of the Boston Clock Co. Things remained the same until sales started to decline for the Boston Clock Company. In 1893 Eastman was listed as a supervisor of the Repair Department at no. 6 Clifton Ave., Roxbury, and the Boston Clock Company assets were sold to Ansonia Clock Company on January 18, 1894.

EASTMAN CLOCK COMPANY

At the age of 51, after the failure of the Boston Clock Company, on March 13, 1894, Eastman incorporated Eastman Clock Company at 64 Warren Ave., Roxbury. He is listed as president. Charles D. Wainright and Harry W. Pidgeon are listed as directors. The company was first listed in the *Boston Business Directory* in 1895, and his residence was at 38 Quincy Ave., Roxbury.

Eastman was approached in August 1895 by the Chelsea Trade Association and citizens of Chelsea to build a new factory in Chelsea, which would employ about 30 to 40 workmen.

The Eastman Clock Company produced an unknown quantity of clocks in its factories at 64 Warren Ave. and later at 284 Everett Ave., Chelsea, MA. It has been discovered that Eastman Clock Company did produce some weight-driven regulators and marine clocks at these factories.

The known weight clocks produced by the Eastman Clock Company during this period were possibly made from incomplete movements and cases he salvaged from the failed original Boston Clock Company.

FORECLOSURE OF EASTMAN CLOCK CO.

The almost completed building ran into financial difficulty in May 1896, and the bank foreclosed on the new building at 284 Everett Ave. on October 29, 1896. The building was purchased from the bank by H. W. Bates. The entire contents of the building (machinery, tools, unfinished clocks, and raw materials) were seized by the court for labor and material liens and were awarded to Peter H. Crowell. H. W. Bates then purchased the rights of the lien, giving him a complete working factory.

The investor group, headed by H. W. Bates, adopted the name Boston Clock Company, Inc., of Kittery, ME, on October 7, 1896, probably hoping to capitalize on the original Boston Clock Company's reputation for high-quality clocks.

For many years it was believed this was a "shell" company and did not produce any clocks at the newly acquired factory at 284 Everett Ave. in Chelsea, MA, which was formerly Eastman Clock Company. However, it has come to light that some clocks stamped Boston Clock Co. were made in the seven-month period before the name changed to Chelsea Clock Company.

A few carriage clocks have been found with the name circularly milled off the backplate and remarked "Chelsea." These clocks were renamed and sold under the Chelsea name. No carriage clocks marked Boston Clock Co. of Kittery, ME, or Eastman Clock Co. have been found.

THE CHELSEA CONNECTION

The name change to Chelsea Clock Company was due to Charles H. Pearson taking control of the company.

The movements and cases of the remarked early Chelsea carriage clocks are similar to the Boston Delos cases, and the movements are similar to the Fair Haven. Only a few of these early remarked Chelsea carriage clocks are known to exist.

The Chelsea Clock Company later made two models totally different from the remarked early Chelsea carriage clocks. Both were offered in the 1906 Chelsea catalog and were made as late as 1926 with several variations. These clocks are marked series "D".

There is a widely accepted rumor that Joseph Eastman was connected to Chelsea Clock Company. However, it should be noted that *Joseph Eastman did not own any part of, or work for, the second Boston Clock Company or the Chelsea Clock Company.* There is no known association between Joseph Eastman and H. W. Bates or Charles H. Pearson.

Further proof of this fact would be the very short time between the foreclosure of the Eastman factory in Chelsea, MA, on October 29, 1896, and the merger of Joseph Eastman with Nahum J. Busby of The Busby Bell & Tool Co. Together, they formed The Fair Haven Mfg. Co. in Fair Haven, VT, in December 1896. Less than two months lapsed between these two events.

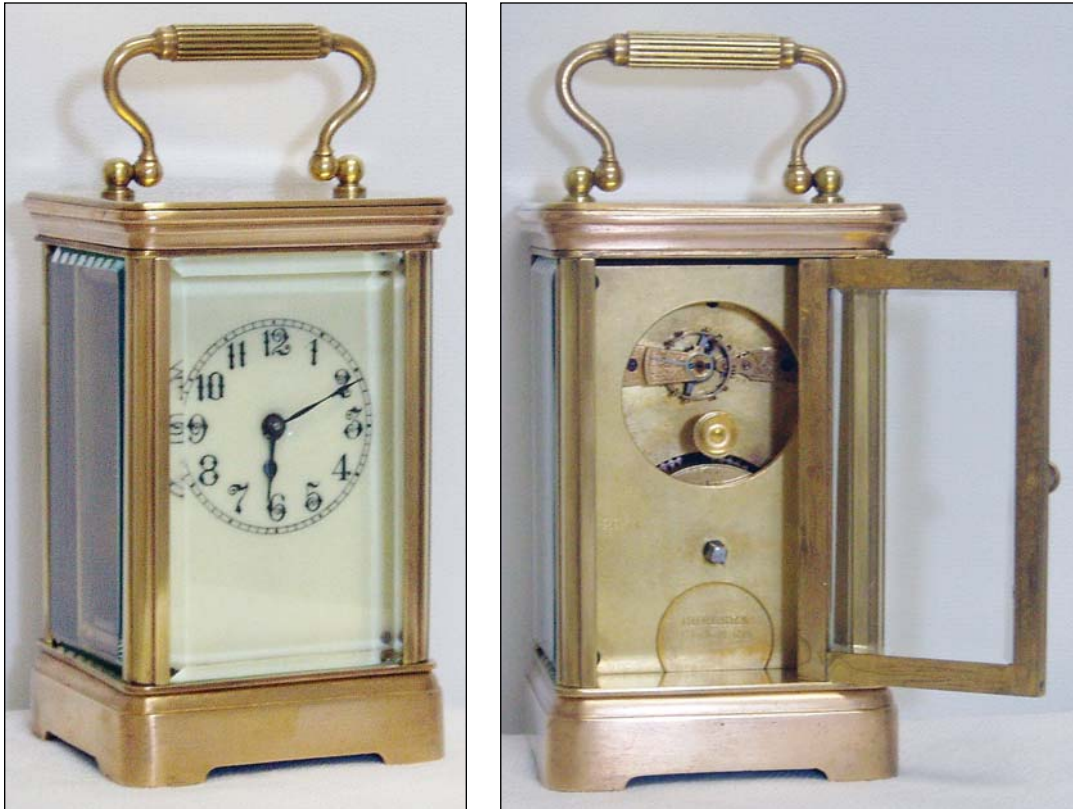


Figure 8. Chelsea carriage clock, early remarked, very rare, ca. 1897, S/N 2854. Made at 2484 Everett Ave., Chelsea, MA. This clock was Chelsea's 56th carriage clock. Chelsea carriage clock serial numbers started at 2,799 (which was a sample delivered to Charles Parson's office). This clock was originally made by either the Second Boston Clock Co. or was left over from the last production of the Eastman Clock Co. The original maker's name was "milled off," and it was remarked "Chelsea." The case is similar to the original Boston "Delos, Style 1," and the movement is similar to the early Fair Haven carriage clocks. Movement: 8-day time only. Size: 6"h x 3"w x 2-5/8"d.



Figure 9. Chelsea carriage clock, ca. 1899-1906, Model 188-D, S/N 3005. Made in Chelsea, MA. Case: heavy gold-plated brass, beveled glass door and three sides, gilded mask with porcelain dial, flat top, multiribbed handle, plain case similar to early "Boston Series 1" except case is 1/2" shorter. Movement: 8-day time only, three gold gilded plates, and seven jewels with compensated balance wheel; backplate has full circle cutaway, which differs from Boston, winding click mounted on front plate. Size: 5-1/2"h x 3-7/16"w x 2-3/8"d.

The loss of the Eastman Clock Company and his new factory must have been devastating to Joseph Eastman and his family. However, the Eastman family remained in their home at 38 Quincy Ave., Roxbury.

The Eastman family lived at 38 Quincy Ave. for 22 years, until 1916, when they moved to no. 18 Pleasant St., Roxbury.

**FAIR HAVEN
MANUFACTURING CO.
AND VERMONT CLOCK CO.**

This man would not give up on his desire to manufacture high-quality clocks. At the age of 53 his next venture was to partner with Nahum J. Busby of The Busby Bell & Tool Co. of Fair Haven, VT, to form The Fair Haven Mfg. Co. This merger was reported in the *Jewelers' Circular & Horological Review* in the December 16, 1896, publication.

Prior to the formation of the Fair Haven Manufacturing Co., Nahum J. Busby, the general manager of the Busby Bell & Tool Co., demanded the company pay him \$50,000 for the machinery and tooling he brought from Boston. The board refused and voted to remove him as general manager. Busby left Fair Haven with the statement, "I will see you in court," and returned to Boston.

Busby filed a lawsuit for \$50,000. During this period, the *Vermont Record*, a Fair Haven, VT, newspaper, published a running account of a court battle for control of the Busby Bell & Tool Co. between Nahum J. Busby, N. R. Reed, and other officers of the company. This law-

Figure 11. Vermont carriage clock, ca. 1898-1902, Model No. 2. Made in Fair Haven, VT. Case: heavy gold-plated brass, beveled glass door and three sides, gold gilded mask with porcelain dial, flat top, multiribbed handle, plain case similar to early Boston "Delos (Style 1)." Movement: 8-day time only, three gold gilded plates, seven jewels with compensated balance wheel, backplate has full circle cut-away, which differs from Boston, winding click mounted on front plate. Size: 6"h x 3"w x 2-3/4"d.



Figure 10. Fair Haven carriage clock, ca. 1897. Made by Fair Haven Mfg. Co. Made in Fair Haven, VT. Case: heavy gold-plated brass, beveled glass door and three sides, full porcelain dial, flat top, multiribbed handle, case similar to Boston "Delos (Style 1)." Movement: 8-day time only, nicked damascene backplate, seven jewels with compensated balance wheel, backplate has a full circle cutaway (which differs from Boston), winding click mounted on the front plate. Size: 6"h x 3"w x 2-3/4"d.



suit was reported in the *New York Herald* on Friday, January 1, 1897. I have not been able to find a court ruling on this lawsuit, so we can assume it was settled out of court.

The documents recorded in Montpelier, VT, the state capital, show that the official name change from the Busby Bell & Tool Co. to the Vermont Clock Company occurred February 15, 1898. The name change was by vote of the current Board of Directors of the Busby Bell & Tool Co. The list of board members did not include the names of Nahum J. Busby or Joseph H. Eastman.

There was no mention of the interim named company, Fair Haven Manufacturing Co. Therefore, we must assume Fair Haven Manufacturing Co., while it did exist, was never incorporated in the State of Vermont. We do know Eastman continued as the production manager of the Vermont Clock Company.

The company was moderately successful and produced approximately 3,000 clocks between 1896 and 1902. They published their only catalog in 1900, which offered four crystal case regulators, two carriage clocks, a ship's bell clock, several wall and shelf clocks, and even a 15 ft.-tall street clock. It has been reported that Vermont Clock Company clocks were available for sale as late as 1907, although all manufacturing ceased in 1902, and the building was leased to other tenants commencing in 1903.

Joseph H. Eastman's obituary stated that in late 1900 he invented a process for making a blue-white light bulb known as a "mercury vapor" lamp, with a process for vaporizing mercury. He reportedly sold the idea and process to Peter Cooper-Hewitt for \$500, but he discovered too late that it was worth much more. We do not know if this story is true; however, we do know the "mercury vapor" lamp was patented by Mr. Cooper-Hewitt on December 3, 1901.

In 1903 there was little or no activity in the life of Joseph Eastman, because there is no business address listed in the *Boston City Directory*; only the familiar home address of 38 Quincy Ave., Roxbury, was listed.

LITTLE & EASTMAN COMPANY

In 1904 he formed a new partnership with Henry C. Little. This company was known as Little & Eastman Company and was located at 595 Harrison Ave., Boston. It is known they produced banjo and wall regulator clocks at this address between 1904 and early 1908. Only a few clocks from this period are known to exist today.

DERRY MANUFACTURING COMPANY

On April 8, 1908, a new clock-manufacturing company was incorporated in Kittery, ME, but the factory was located in Derry, NH, about 40 miles from Boston. Joseph Eastman was not a principal of the Derry Manufacturing Co. He was an employee and "production supervisor" was his title. He was 66 years old and still resided at 38 Quincy Ave., Roxbury.

Derry Manufacturing Co. published a catalog offering some high-quality clocks, but they were also high priced, which probably accounted for the end of their production in 1909. Edwin B. Burt's article in the April 1958 *Bulletin* gives a good account of the history of Derry Manufacturing Co.

The 1910 through 1914 *Boston Directories* listed only the home address of 38 Quincy Ave. for Joseph Eastman and his family.

The 1910 Census still showed his occupation to be "clock manufacturer." This was after the closing of Derry Manufacturing Co. Could he have contracted to complete clocks in production after Derry Manufacturing Co. ceased production?

The *Jewelers' Circular & Horological Review* reported the sale of the machinery and inventory of the defunct Derry Manufacturing Co. to Frank Herschede of Cincinnati, OH, in 1912. It is known that Herschede Clock Company sold clocks with movements made by Derry Manufacturing Co. Possibly, Joseph Eastman worked for Herschede in this period, from 1910 to 1914. My research gives only the clue found in the 1910 Census, which stated he was a clock manufacturer. We may never know what he did in this period of his life.

SECOND EASTMAN CLOCK COMPANY, INC.

In 1915 the *Boston City Directory* listed the Eastman Clock Company, Inc., 564 Washington Street, Room 426, in the "Clock Manufactories" category. This is the last time he has a home address of 38 Quincy Ave., Roxbury. Joseph Eastman is now 73 years old. Did he sell his home at 38 Quincy Ave. to raise capital for one more try at clock manufacturing?

Over the next four years his business address and home address changed each year:

1916: business 36 Bromfield, Room 502; home 18 Pleasant St., W. Roxbury

1917: business 8-1/2 Bosworth, Room 15; home 112 Perham, W. Roxbury

1918: business 9 Bosworth; no personal directory available

1919: no directory printed because of World War I

1920: Census listed Joseph as a widower, but his two daughters still lived with him. His age was 76.

E & O CLOCK COMPANY

The 1920 *Boston City Directory* listed a new company at the 9 Bosworth business address: E & O Clock Company (Eastman & Osborn Clock Co.). His new partner was William H. Osborn. This partnership continued through the printing of the 1921 *Boston Directory* and ended prior to the printing of the 1922 *Boston City Directory*. Eastman's home address was 70 Birch Street. This company was never incorporated.

	1 st HARVARD & BOSTON CLOCK COMPANY	2 nd EASTMAN CLOCK COMPANY	"NEW" BOSTON & CHELSEA CLOCK COMPANY	FAIR HAVEN MFG. CO. & VERMONT CLOCK CO	4 th LITTLE & EASTMAN CLOCK COMPANY	5 th DERRY MANUFACTURING COMPANY	6 th & 7 th SECOND EASTMAN CLOCK CO. & E & O CLOCK CO.
1880	"HARVARD CLOCK CO." INC. NOV. 20, 1880 CHELSEA, MA.						
1884	NAME CHANGED TO "BOSTON CLOCK CO." MAY 29, 1884 CHELSEA, MA						
1894	1 "ANSONIA CLOCK CO." BUYS ASSETS OF "BOSTON CLOCK CO." JAN 18, 1894 (NO REAL ESTATE)	2 "EASTMAN CLOCK CO." INCORPORATES MARCH 1894 IN ROXBURY, MA. (FEW CLOCKS PRODUCED)					
1895	REAL ESTATE TRANSFERRED TO CHARLES O. WARNER SEPTEMBER 1895	3 PLANS TO MOVE FACTORY TO NEW BUILDING AUG. 1895 (SOME PRODUCTION BEFORE FORECLOSURE)					
1896		BANK FORECLOSURE ON THE NEW EVERETT AVE FACTORY OF EASTMAN CLOCK CO., OCT. 29, 1896	4 OCT. 7, 1896, INVESTOR GROUP INCORPORATED A NEW, OR 2 ND , "BOSTON CLOCK CO." OF KITTEERY, ME. & SEPT. 30, 1896, BOUGHT EVERETT AVE. FACTORY	5 JOSEPH EASTMAN PARTNERS WITH NAHUM J. BUSBY, AND FORMS "FAIR HAVEN MFG. CO." DEC. 1896 IN FAIR HAVEN, VT.			
1897			"NEW BOSTON CLOCK CO." BECOMES "CHELSEA" ON AUG. 4, 1897 AS CHARLES PEARSON TAKES CONTROL	"BUSBY BELL & TOOL CO." NAME CHANGED TO "VERMONT CLOCK CO." FAIR HAVEN, VT. 1898			
1898							
1900				6 "VERMONT CLOCK CO." PRODUCED CATALOG IN 1900. CEASED PRODUCTION IN 1902	7 "LITTLE & EASTMAN" ORGANIZED IN 1903. CEASED OPERATION 1907		
1907							
1908						8 "DERRY MFG. CO." OPERATED 1908 TO 1909, DERRY, N.H.	
1909							
1915							SECOND "EASTMAN CLOCK COMPANY" 1915 TO 1920
1920							9 "E & O CLOCK COMPANY" 1920 TO 1921
1921							
1922							10 SECOND "EASTMAN CLOCK CO." RESUMES 1922 -1924
1924							

TIMELINE NOTES

1. Ansonia Clock Company did not buy the name Boston Clock Co. (the original Boston Clock Co.); only the physical assets: machinery, tools, etc.

2. Joseph Eastman incorporated Eastman Clock Co. on March 13, 1894, at 64 Warren Ave., Boston, MA. Existing serial numbers indicate nearly 300 marine movements were produced. Some Boston weight movements or parts may have been used in Eastman weight-driven clocks. No carriage clocks are known to exist.

3. This is the building on Everett Avenue in Chelsea, MA, that was acquired by investors forming a "new" Boston Clock Co. of Kittery, ME, which became Chelsea Clock Co.

4. Popular belief is this new Boston Clock Co. was a "phony" and had no production. However, new information has come to light that proves there was some production under the name Boston Clock Co. (of Kittery, ME). Some carriage clocks have been found with the original maker's name "milled off" and reengraved with the name Chelsea Clock Co. There was some clock production between Sept. 30, 1896 (production started 11/18/96), and the transfer of the assets and property on Everett Ave. to the new firm named Chelsea Clock Co., which was incorporated Aug. 4, 1897.

5. It is known that some ship's bell clocks and crystal regulators made at the Fair Haven Manufacturing Co. were produced with parts that were brought with Eastman from the original Boston Clock Co. The carriage clocks marked Fair Haven Manufacturing Co. & Vermont Clock Co. have a different designed movement. Carriage clocks marked Fair Haven Manufacturing Co. are rare.

6. During the period from late 1896 to 1902, Joseph Eastman and his associates, under the co-names of Fair Haven Manufacturing Co. and Vermont Clock Co., produced about 3,000 clocks of various styles, including carriage, marine, and pendulum wall clocks. Examples of these clocks exist in private collections and museums. This is the last

known company associated with Joseph Eastman to produce carriage clocks.

7. All production of clocks made by Little & Eastman appear to have movements made in Boston. Only a few banjo clocks are known to exist marked Little & Eastman Co.

8. Derry Manufacturing Co. was organized on April 8, 1908, and possibly operated for only one year. It ceased to exist sometime in 1909 and produced a catalog showing many fine clocks. Some are known to exist today in private collections. The machinery of the company was sold to the Herschede Co. of Cincinnati, OH, in about 1912. What happened in Joseph Eastman's career between the closing of the Derry Manufacturing Co. in 1909 until 1912 is somewhat of a mystery.

9. In 1920 Joseph Eastman took in a partner, William H. Osborn. They operated at the same address as the second Eastman Clock Company, 9 Bosworth Ave., Boston. The partnership ended sometime in 1921. The name had reverted back to Eastman Clock Company by the time the 1922 *Boston City Directory* was printed and was still at the same address.

10. There was a connection between Wallace Nutting (clock book author) and Joseph Eastman, because a banjo clock exists with the dial signed "Wallace Nutting - Framingham" and a movement signed Eastman Clock Co.

There is no evidence Joseph Eastman made any clocks after this time (1924) until his death in December 1931 at the age of 88. His obituary can be found on the Chelsea Clock Museum website: www.chelseaclockmuseum.com. Click the link for Joseph Eastman's obituary and scroll down.

Note: To register any Harvard or Eastman clock you may have, forward the serial number and description to Jim Dyson, curator of the Chelsea Clock Museum (eastmanj@aol.com).

SECOND EASTMAN CLOCK COMPANY, INC., RESUMES

The 1922 *Boston City Directory* once again listed the Eastman Clock Co., Inc. at 10 Bosworth. His home address was listed at 70 Birch St.

In 1923 Eastman Clock Company was still at 10 Bosworth, but his home was 733 South St.

1924 was the last time he had a business address listed: 101 Tremont St., Room 910. His home address was 71 Robert Street.

JOSEPH EASTMAN RETIRES

The 1925 *Boston Directory* still listed his home address the same as in 1924, but it included no business address. We must assume that he decided to retire the Eastman Clock Co., Inc. for good in 1924 or 1925. He was then 81 years old.

There are no *Boston City Directories* available for 1926–1927, so we must assume Eastman and his daughters had moved to 488 Washington St. in Dedham, MA, now a suburb of Boston, because this was their home address until his death December 17, 1931.

Joseph Henry Eastman's obituary appeared in the *Dedham Transcript*, a Massachusetts newspaper, dated January 1, 1932. He was 88 years old at his death.

He was buried in Boston's Forrest Hills Cemetery, Site 237, Section 24. His wife Rosamond and daughter Elizabeth (Bessie) are buried with him in a common grave.

MY SUMMATION

We don't have all of the life history of Joseph Henry Eastman, but we can come to some conclusions about him and his family.

He was born to a poor family in a small town.

He had only an elementary education, because he was a shoemaker apprentice at age 16.

He married a girl from the same small town (Newton, NH) in 1866. He was 22 years old. She was 20.

They moved to the "big city" (Boston, MA) sometime before 1870.

He likely served as an apprentice watchmaker to someone, somewhere in Boston between 1866 and 1870.

He was a "freelance" watchmaker, or apprentice, in 1870 and was living in Boston.

He had two patents in his name while working at the seven known companies of which he was a principal or supervisor of clock manufacturing.

His clock manufacturing lasted 44 years—an amazingly long time!

He, his wife Rosamond, and daughters Eva and Bessie never lived more than 40 miles from the center of Boston, and they all lived together until "death do us part." They were a close family.

He was a brilliant man and a dedicated family man.

His career had many "ups and downs," but he never gave up on his desire to build fine, high-quality clocks.

He was not a good businessman, because he did not capitalize on his patents, ideas, and his watch and clock-making skills.

He died, leaving almost no estate, but he was greatly loved by his two daughters, who lived with him until his death in December 1931 at the age of 88. His obituary can be found on the Chelsea Clock Museum website, but it must be noted that there are some inconsistencies in the obituary writers' (probably his daughters) accounts and the proven facts found in this article.

Many of the fine clocks made in the factories he was associated with survive today, and I am proud to own several of them. When I lovingly clean and polish them, I think that maybe he designed and assembled some of them himself. Pictures of some of the carriage clocks made by the companies associated with Joseph Henry Eastman are included here along with my new timeline of the clock companies associated with Joseph Henry Eastman and footnotes.

Thank you, Mr. Eastman, for these fine carriage clocks you made in America.

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Ken Hogwood is a retired businessman with homes in Port Orange, FL, and Greenback, TN. He is currently a member of Chapters 24 and 42 and has been a member of the NAWCC since 1999. Ken is a collector, researcher, and restorer of antique carriage clocks. He gave a presentation on American carriage clocks at the 2012 Ward Francillon Symposium, which featured carriage clocks from around the world. He has served as exhibit chair at several Mid-South Regionals, and he is exhibit chair for the 2015 NAWCC National to be held in Chattanooga, TN. Ken also enjoys presenting PowerPoint programs, which he creates from his travels and research projects, at local chapter meetings.